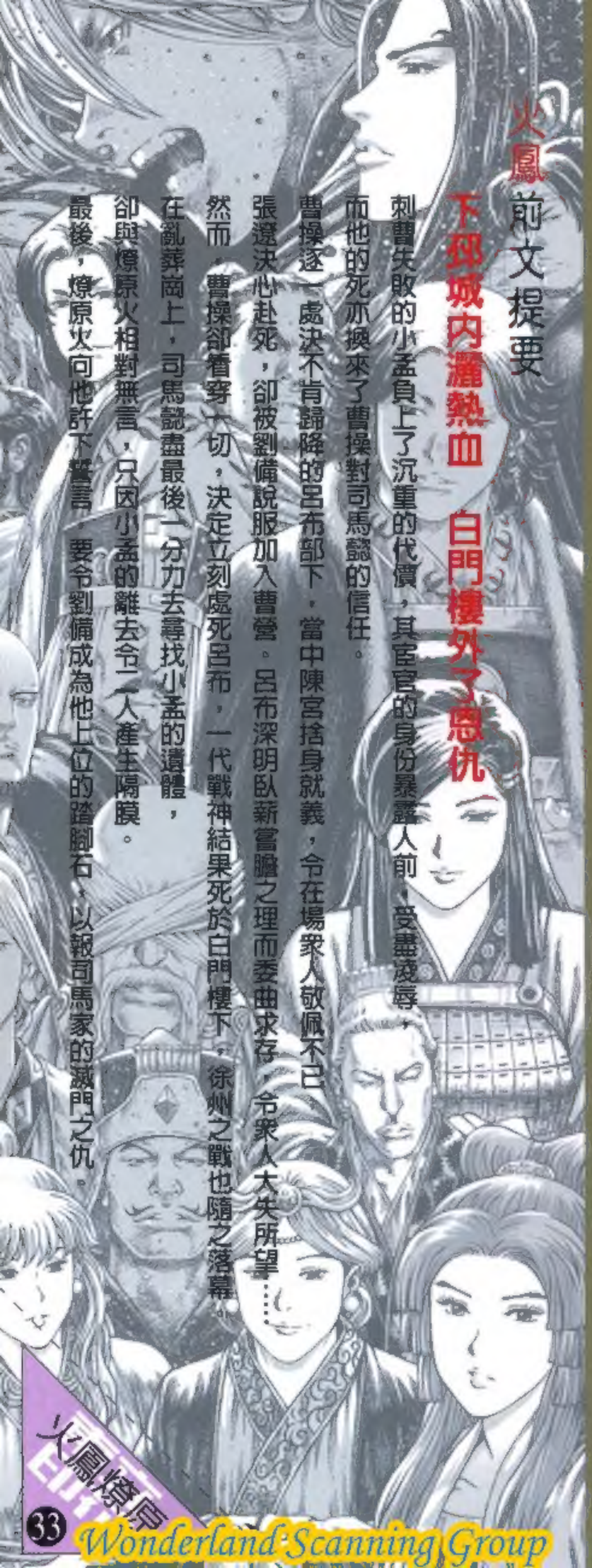

火鳳 前文提要

下邳城內灑熱血 白門樓外了恩仇

刺曹失敗的小孟負上了沉重的代價，其宮官的身份暴露人前，受盡凌辱，而他的死亦換來了曹操對司馬懿的信任。

曹操逐一處決不肯歸降的呂布部下，當中陳宮捨身就義，令在場眾人敬佩不已。張遼決心赴死，卻被劉備說服加入曹營。呂布深明臥薪嘗膽之理而委曲求存，令眾人大失所望……

然而，曹操卻看穿一切，決定立刻處死呂布，一代戰神結果死於白門樓下，徐州之戰也隨之落幕。

在亂葬崗上，司馬懿盡最後一分力去尋找小孟的遺體，卻與燎原火相對無言，只因小孟的離去令二人產生隔膜。

最後，燎原火向他許下誓言，要令劉備成為他上位的踏腳石，以報司馬家的滅門之仇。

火鳳燎原 33
Wonderland Scanning Group

三國群英傳

火鳳燎原

33

陳某

The Ravages of Time

火鳳燎原 33 陳某

TONG LI COMICS
東立
NT-95

兵殘

敗走記

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DYNASTY CHANGE SEEMED INEVITABLE DURING THAT WAR TORN ERA.

POST READS: TREATMENT

AND YOU CAN EVEN BUY A GOVERNMENT JOB. THE MORE YOU PAY, THE HIGHER YOUR POSITION. BRIBERY WAS THE ONLY WAY TO MAKE IT IN.

XIHUA. YELLOW TURBAN FRONTLINE CAMP

I'M JUST A SIMPLE PEASANT WHO IS TOO POOR TO BUY A POSITION. MY ONLY CAPITAL IS MY LOWLY LIFE.

JUST MY LUCK, GETTING WOUNDED RIGHT AFTER ENTERING THE FIGHT.

WELL, IT'S NOT TOO SERIOUS. A FEW DAYS OF REST AND YOU CAN GO.

SCANNER: HMM, WONDERLAND SCANNING GROUP
TRANSLATIONS: MERC, HTTP://RAVAGINGTIMES.WORDPRESS.COM/
EDITS: KI SHODAR, HTTP://MEMBERS.OPTUSNET.COM.AU/SHODAR

THE RAVAGES SIDE STORIES CHAPTER 1
LIU DA, LEADER OF THE HANDICAPPED WARRIORS

HAHA...

UNFORTUNATELY IN A FEW DAYS WE'LL BE PART OF A MAJOR COUNTER-OFFENSIVE.

ONCE THE WOUNDS HEAL WE'LL BE THROWING OUR LIVES AWAY AGAIN.

SOUNDS LIKE NOBODY WANTS TO FIGHT A WAR.

HAHA, I'LL BE HAPPY WITH ALL MY LIMBS INTACT.

LIMBS INTACT? YEAH, EASIER TO GET AWAY WHEN YOU NEED TO.

IF YOU WANT A FEW EXTRA DAYS HERE, WANT ME TO CUT YOU A FRESH ONE?

TODAY IS DAY THREE AFTER NEW YEAR - SHOULD BE WHEN THE SUPPLIES COME. I HEARD THAT THE LEADER WILL COME TOO, RIGHT?

SAY THE RIGHT THINGS AND YOU JUST MIGHT GET SOME REWARD.

YES, CHIEF ALWAYS ESCORT THE SUPPLY TRANSPORT TO THE FRONTLINE.

WHAT REWARD? HOW ABOUT ASKING THE IMMORTAL TO RESTORE MY EYE?

CHARMS ONLY SAVE THOSE WHO ARE MEANT TO BE SAVED. IT'S NOT YOUR TURN YET.

HE WOULD ALSO VISIT THE WOUNDED TO RAISE MORALE.

THE SECOND BATTALION WILL SOON BE SENDING THEIR WOUNDED MEN. HOPE YOU CAN GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP.

APPRE-CIATE THE THOUGHT.

EAST HAN'S GENERAL (LEFTHAND GENERAL OF THE GENTLEMAN OF THE HOUSEHOLDS) HUANGFU SONG PUT UP A FIERCE FIGHT, CAUSING THE YELLOW TURBANS TO SUFFER HEAVY CASUALTIES AND ROUTING THEM TO XIHUA.

IN THE SUMMER OF 184 AD, THE YELLOW TURBAN REBELS SURROUNDED CHANGSHE.

KILL!

KILL!

OW...

OW...

HELP... HELP ME! DON'T KILL ME! DON'T KILL ME!

SAVE ME!

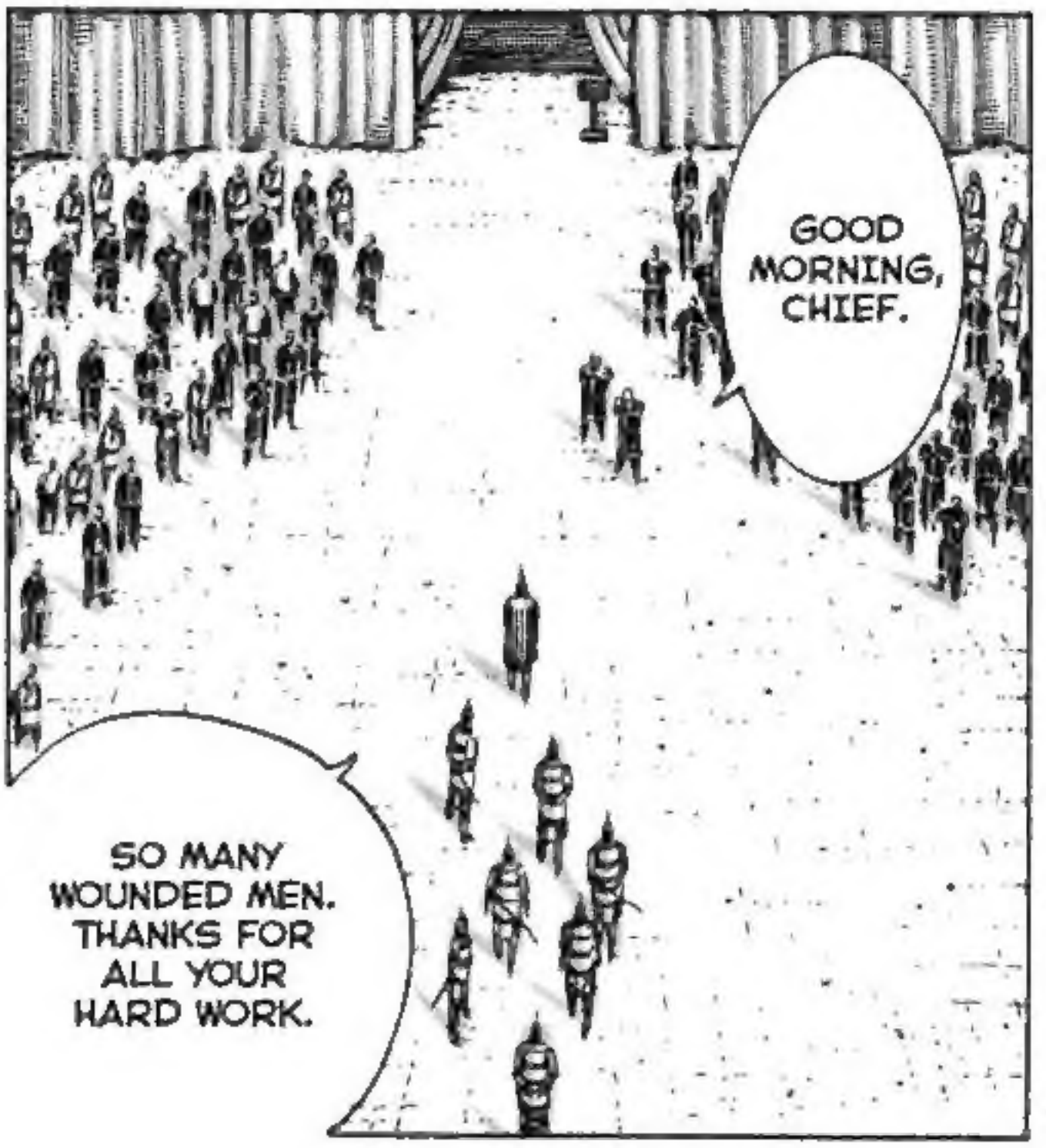
SAVE ME, IMMORTAL! SAVE ME!

I ONLY ENLISTED FOR THE FOOD!

BE QUIET, I BEG OF YOU.

SFX: PA~

YOU'RE RIGHT...



(THE SECOND PART IS MORE LIKE SPITTING, SO THE MEANING OF "LIKE HELL IT DOES" IS IMPLIED)

NOTE: THE LEADER OF THE YELLOW TURBANS, ZHANG JIAO, ORGANIZED HIS FOLLOWERS INTO THIRTY SIX DIVISIONS, EACH WITH A CANAL COMMANDER IN CHARGE

I COULD HEAR THEIR SCREAMS ALL NIGHT EVEN FROM A DISTANCE AWAY.

YELLOW TURBAN CIRCUIT COMMANDER

PENG TUO

YESSIR. SO MANY WOUNDED AND THE ONES LOSING THEIR MINDS WOULD DO THAT.

DON'T FORGET, WE'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES WITH EARS!

LISTEN... THIS MAY HURT MORALE.

YESSIR. I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.

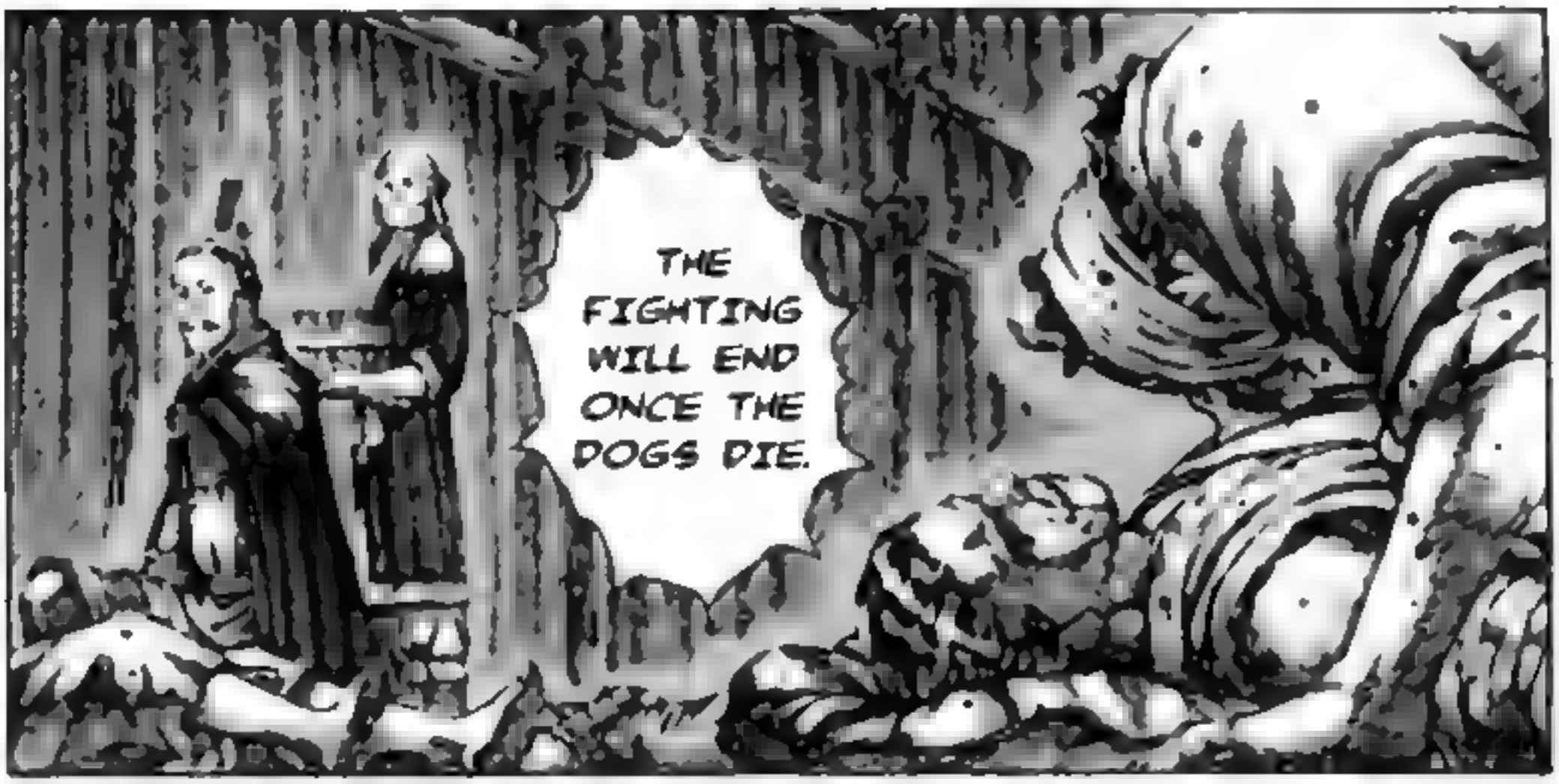
GOOD. I'LL BE RIGHT OUT.

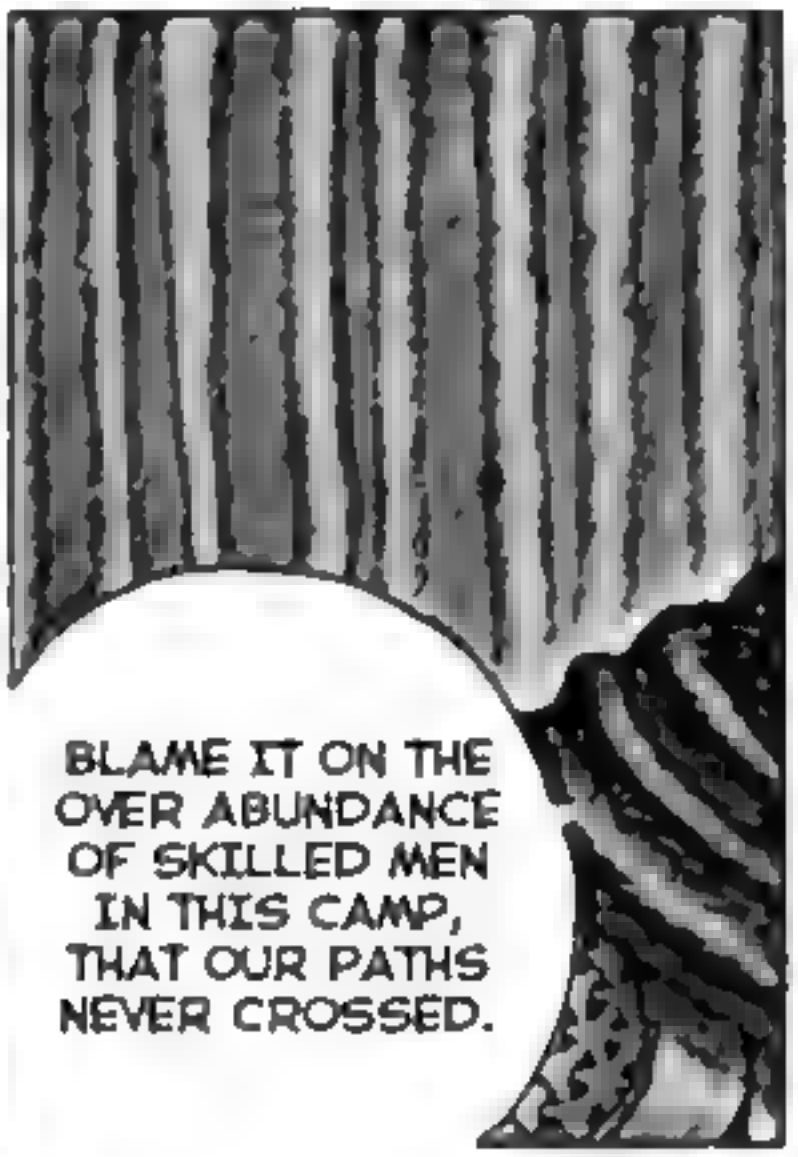
THE SUPPLIES ARE HERE. DISTRIBUTE THEM TO THOSE WHO LOOK THE MOST DEPRESSED FIRST.

THE CARETAKERS MUST BE TIRED TOO. TELL THEM TO TAKE A BREAK.

YOU SAID IT RIGHT, CHIEF!

THE TYRANNIC HAN. I THANK YOU.





("YOU HAVE ASPIRATION, AMBITION")

I'VE BEEN IN THIS ARMY FOR A WHILE, WAITING FOR THE BEST CHANCE TO STRIKE.

OH, WHAT DO YOU MEAN, MY BROTHER...

STRIKE?

THE UPCOMING MAJOR COUNTER-OFFENSIVE... MEANS THE HIGHEST BOUNTY ON YOUR HEAD.

YOU RUINED YOUR OWN LEFT EYE GUITE THE SACRIFICE
GUA... GUARDS, THERE IS...

SFX: CHA~

喀

MUR-
MURDER!

AH! IT HURTS SO MUCH!

ALL MY LIMBS ARE INTACT. I CAN ESCAPE.

THEIR CRIES CAN COVER THE NOISE. IT CAN WORK.

AH... WAH... AH!

SAVE ME!

MURDER!

HAHA, I THINK YOU SHOULD JUST WAIT A LITTLE LONGER.

IS THAT OUR CHIEF'S VOICE?

I CAN'T TELL. SHOULD WE GO CHECK?

THE CHIEF IS PRETTY BUSY!

CHARMS CAN'T SAVE MY LEFT EYE EITHER, SINCE IT WAS BLIND TO BEGIN WITH.

WEIGHING THE GAINS... IT COULD WORK.

HENEI. IMPERIAL ARMY'S STATIONING POINT

PENG TUO IS DEAD.

THE NEARBY YELLOW TURBANS HAVE RETREATED FOR NOW.

THE MILITARY SPENDING FOR HALF A YEAR IS FIFTY THOUSAND JIN OF GOLD.

I WONDER HOW MUCH SAVING THIS BRINGS TO YOU BUSINESS-MEN?

MISTER WARRIOR, YOU COULD HAVE JUST GONE TO THE GOVERNOR FOR BETTER LUCK.

UNLESS... YOU SIR HAVE SOMETHING ELSE IN MIND?

MILITARY IS PAID FOR BY THE MERCHANT CLASS. WHAT LITTLE YOU GIVE ME WILL BE FAR LESS THAN WHAT YOU GIVE THEM.

I'M JUST A BRUTE, AND I WILL NEVER BE AS FAMOUS AS THOSE WHO BUY THEIR FAME.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

THE OFFICERS [illegible] BUSINESSMEN SAVE ON WAR TAXES, AND I GAIN A HEFTY [illegible]

AND JUST WHEN WE NEED A TALENT LIKE YOU TO SHARE OUR BURDEN.

HE'S RIGHT CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT LOGIC.

IF ONE DAY I SAVE ENOUGH TO BUY A GOVERNMENT JOB, GOOD SIRS, I WON'T FORGET YOUR FAVOR.

("THE CALCULATION IS CORRECT. I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY")

I, LIU DA, AM WILLING TO EMPOWER THE SIMA CLAN.

LIU DA IS THE SAME AS THE JIN LIU DA BUT BY A MISTAKE, IT MEANS NOT ONLY "MEANING" HE IS FAMOUS BUT ALSO MEANS REALITY. ALSO LIU DA IN CANTONESE "LIU SOUNDS VERY CLOSE", "LAO LOW" SO LIU DA PINYIN = "LAO DA" AND THAT IS PRONUNCIATION "LAU DA PINYIN"

I THINK THAT MAYBE
A NEW ERA IS ABOUT TO BEGIN..

WHO WILL I BE YEARS FROM NOW?

(ANOTHER POSSIBLE READING IS: "AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, WHO AM I?")

THE FIGHTING BETWEEN IMPERIAL HAN AND YELLOW TURBANS ROCKED THE WHOLE COURT WITH ITS INTENSITY.

EVEN A LITTLE WELL-TO-DO GOVERNMENT POSITION HAD ITS VALUE BOOSTED BY MORE THAN A FACTOR OF TEN.

PUT IT DOWN

HERE'S (THE FEE) FOR THIS MONTH, OFFICER

THAT DAY I BOUGHT A BUN AS I PASSED BY A SHOP.

THE SIMA CLAN IS MAKING QUITE A PROFIT THESE YEARS.

THE PROTECTION FEE WILL GO UP AGAIN NEXT MONTH.

SCANNER: HMM, WONDERLAND SCANNING GROUP
EDITS: KI SHODAR, HTTP://MEMBERS.OPTUSNET.COM.AU/SHODAR

THE RAVAGES SIDE STORIES CHAPTER 2

LIAOYUAN HUO: LEADER OF THE HANDICAPPED WARRIORS

WOAH! EVEN THE OFFICERS GOT ROBBED

STINK-ING BRAT! STOP!

HE'S HEADING FOR THE BACK ALLEY!

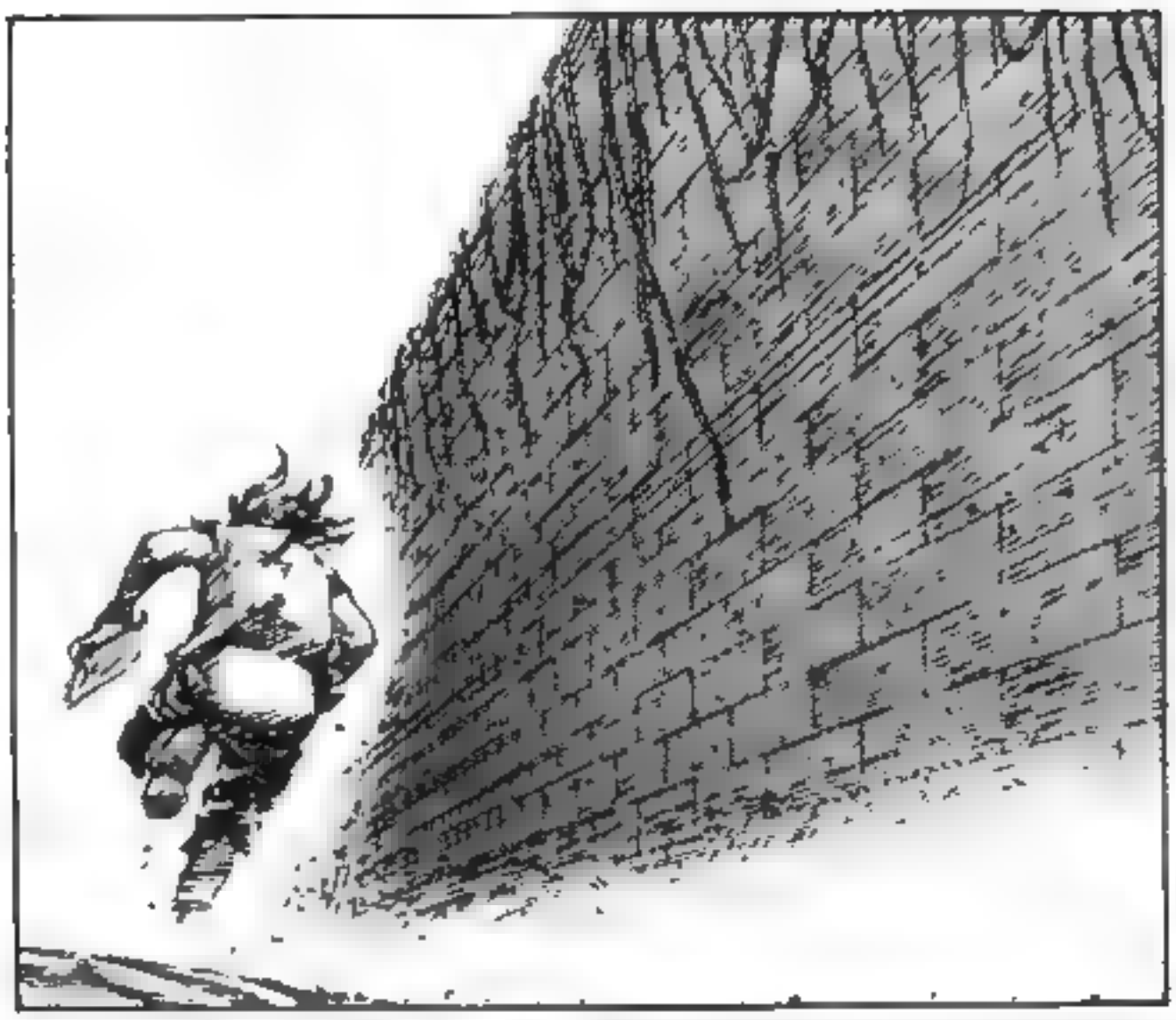
SO MANY FOREIGN BEGGARS NOW THAT THE WORLD IS A MESS.

DAMNIT! GO TO HELL!

YES, AND THEY'LL DO ANYTHING FOR FOOD.

嚓

BULLS-
EYE.



-TA!-

DON'T JUST STAND THERE! AFTER HIM!
NOT... NOT DEAD?

AND RUN TO THE RUINS, THEN I'LL GIVE YOU ONE.
I SAID IF YOU CAN STEAL A (RECORD) BOOK FROM THE OFFICERS,

THAT DAY I ASKED HIM WHAT HE WANTED. HE SAID...
JUST A BUN.

HUFF!
HUFF!

HE AGREED
(TO IT)
WITHOUT A
SECOND
THOUGHT.

A LIFE
FOR A BUN.
SADLY THAT
WAS HOW
WE LIVED
IN THAT DAY
AND AGE.

GIVE US THE RECORD BOOK!

HUFF!

HUFF!

STINK... STINKING BRAT, SOME STRENGTH YOU GOT THERE!

OFFICER... YOU WANT TO KILL HIM...?

GIVE WHAT? NOTHING SHORT OF YOUR LIFE WOULD APPEASE ME.

NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, CRIPPLE. STEP ASIDE.

YES, HERE NO ONE WILL SEE...

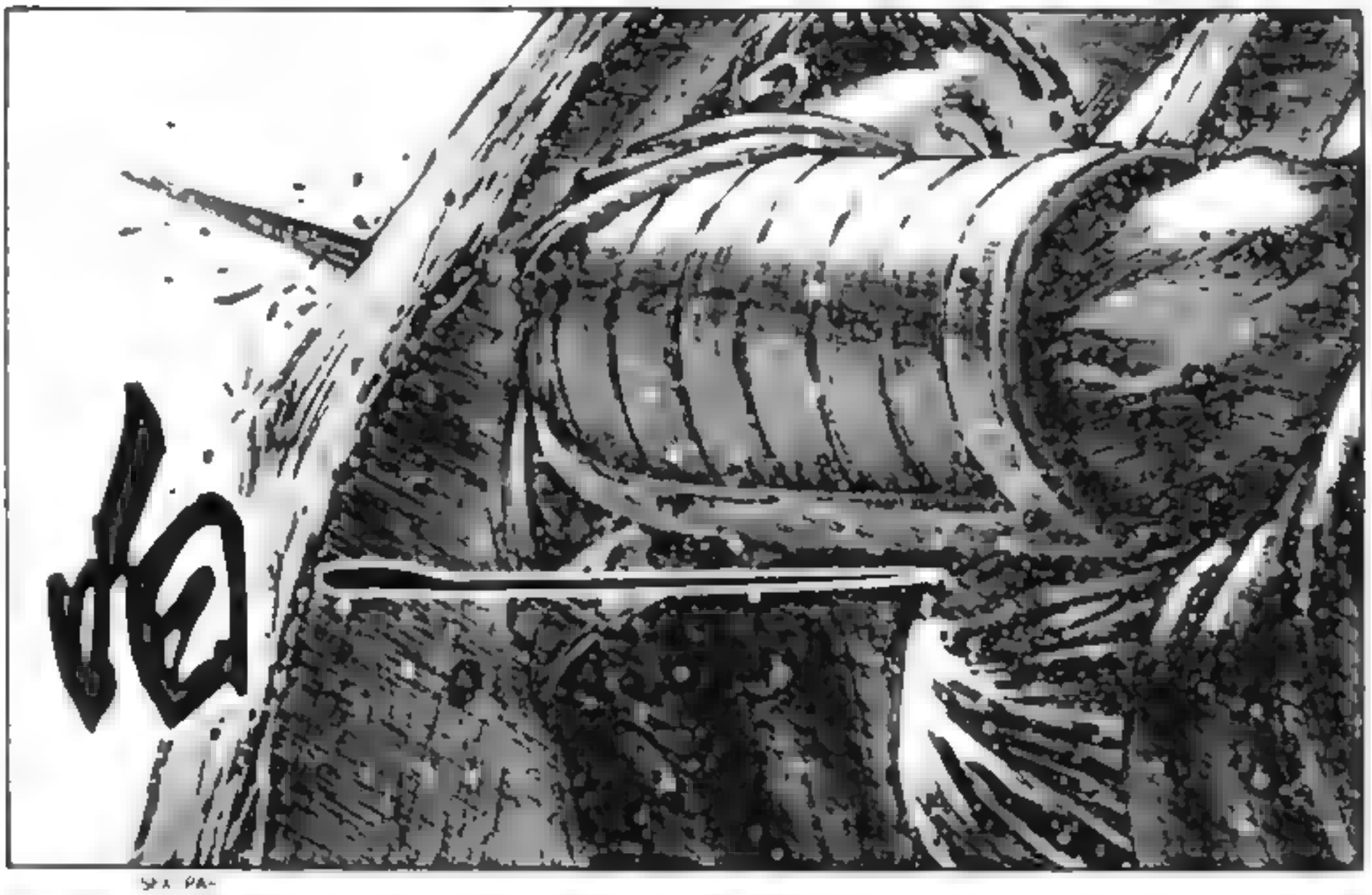
ME,
KILL (YOU)!

SFX: CHA~ CHA~

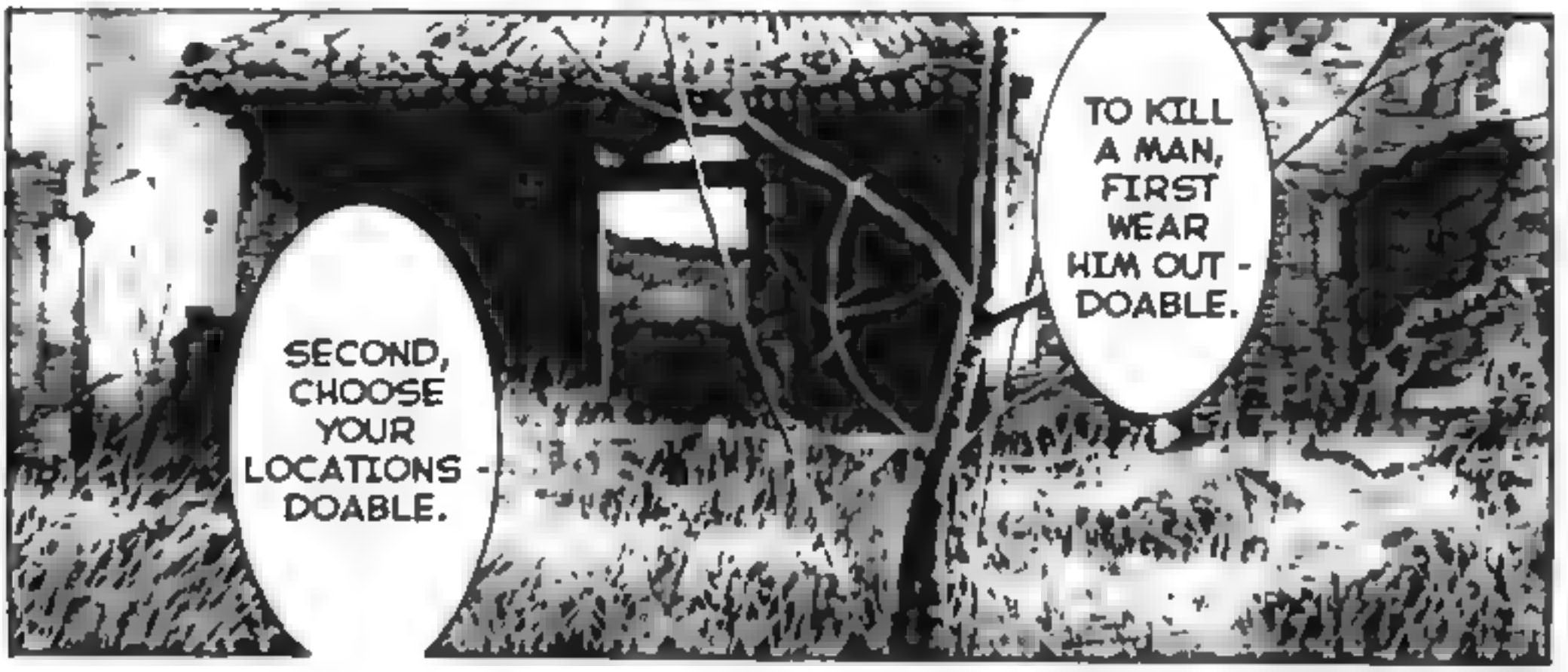
SFX: CHA~

YOU KNOW, LIVING IN A CRAZY WORLD LIKE THAT,

WHO DOESN'T BLOODY THEIR HANDS?


SIX PA-

PEOPLE IN THE YANZHOU REGION KEPT HEARING ABOUT THE LEGEND OF A ONE-EYED ASSASSIN THAT YEAR.


SECOND, CHOOSE YOUR LOCATIONS - DOABLE.
TO KILL A MAN, FIRST WEAR HIM OUT - DOABLE.

THIRDLY, STRIKE WHEN HE'S LEAST EXPECTING IT - DOABLE.

EXCELLENT. NOW YOU CAN RIGHTFULLY TAKE MY PLACE.

LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE SAVED ENOUGH TO BUY A GOVERNMENT JOB, BOSS?

I'LL LEAVE YOU MY EYE-PATCH. I HOPE YOU CAN CARRY ON THE LEGEND OF OUR GROUP.

YOU... YOU AGREED...

LURE THEM HERE... A... A DUN

A LOWLY NAME... ISN'T WORTH MENTION-ING.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

I'M GLAD THAT THIS INVESTMENT COST ME SO LITTLE.

I HELD ON... JUST TO SEE YOU.

UPON HEARING THOSE WORDS...

I FELT PITY.

YES, WE ARE HELPLESS LIKE THAT.

DIE

BOSS, BEHIND YOU!

("CLIMB UP IN LIFE")

THAT IS WHY

WE MUST STRIVE FOR A BETTER LIFE.

SFX: CHA-

峻

FOURTHLY,

BY WHATEVER MEANS NECESSARY.

TO COMPLETE THE MISSION,

SACRIFICE EVERYTHING - DOABLE.

YOU MUST KNOW THESE BY HEART.

THE PRINCIPLE OF AN ASSASSIN.

DAMN!

KEH... DAMN!

DAMN YOU

SFX PA~

FIFTHLY!

SFX CHA~

BLOOD CANNOT BE WASTED!

I'LL EAT AS MUCH AS I BLEED!

喀

SFX CHA~

THE GOAL HAS BEEN REACHED

WHAT... IS HE COUNTING ON?

ONE BUN... FOR THREE LIVES.

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY, BOY?

I WONDER HOW MUCH SAVING THAT DID YOU, OLD MAN?

("OLD BROTHER")

I BOUGHT A BUN AND ANOTHER ME THAT DAY.

HA...

HAHA!
HAHAHA!

THAT DAY IN THE RUINS I LAUGHED.

MY LOWLY LIFE IS MY CAPITAL.

FEED ME, AND IT'S YOURS!

IN THE WINTER OF THAT YEAR I LEFT THE SIMA CLAN FOR A GOVERNMENT POST.

AFTER THAT I TOOK HIM IN.

A FEW YEARS LATER DONG ZHUO CAME TO THE CAPITAL AND RETIRED US ALL.

IT WAS THEN THAT I LEARNED WHAT LIVING IN HELL WAS LIKE. MEN IN THOSE POSITIONS WERE MORE VICIOUS THAN WILD BEASTS.

I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER HOW MANY PEOPLE I HAVE KILLED.

I LOOKED FORWARD TO MY SECOND CHANCE.

HAVING LOST EVERY-THING, I HAD TO PICK UP MY SWORD AND THE OLD WAYS ONCE AGAIN.

AND STILL REMEMBER... THE BUN HE LIKED TO EAT.

I WOULD OCCASIONALLY BE REMINDED OF THAT BOY.

BUT WHENEVER I PASS BY A BUN SELLER,

AND STILL REMEMBER... HOW I LIVED MY LIFE.

AND JUST WHEN WE NEED A TALENT LIKE YOU TO REPLACE THE DEAD FIFTH LEADER.

AND STILL REMEMBER... THAT FEARSOME ONE-EYED ASSASSIN.

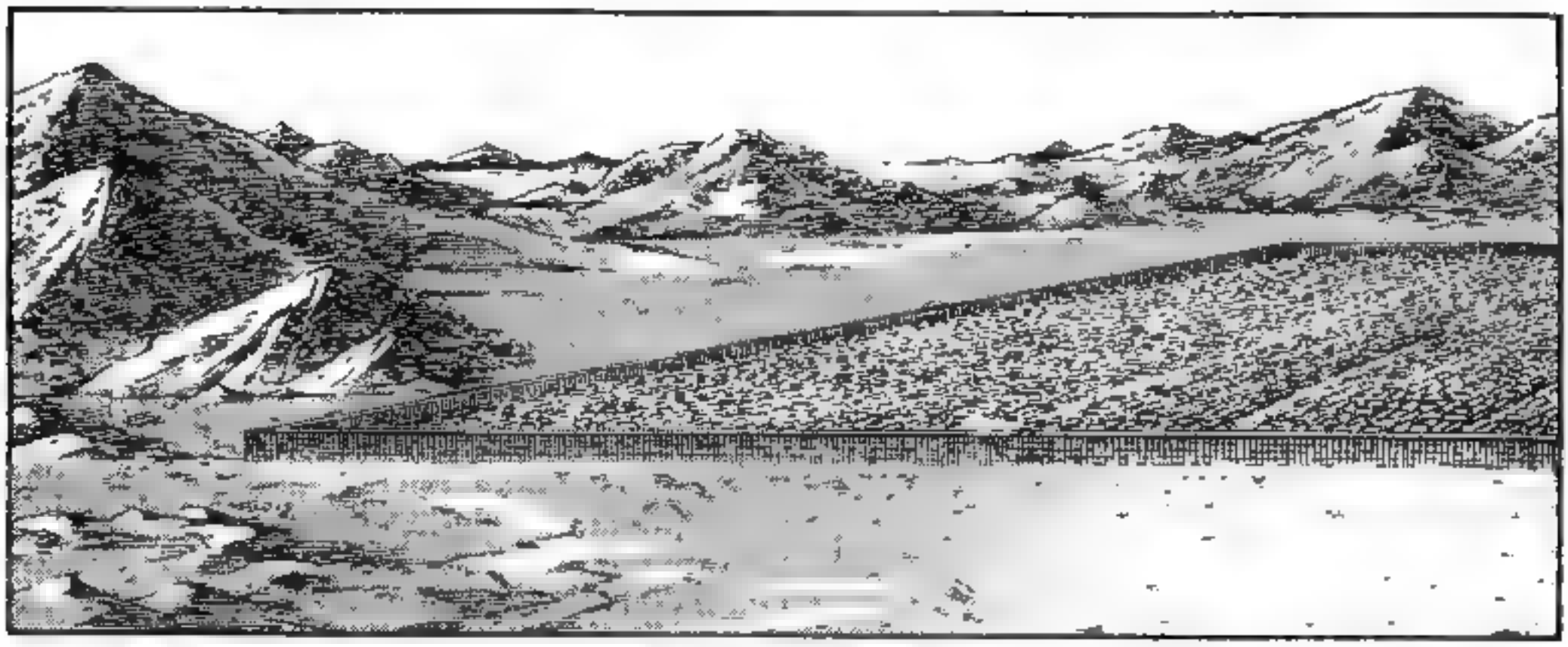
YOU'RE RIGHT. CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT LOGIC.

I, LIAOYUAN HUO, AM WILLING TO EMPOWER THE SIMA CLAN.

I THINK THAT MAYBE...
MY ERA IS ABOUT TO END.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING
YEARS FROM NOW?

(ANOTHER POSSIBLE READING IS: "AFTER ALL THESE YEARS,
WHAT AM I DOING?")



YOU WERE JUST RELEASED, MA'AM, YOU SHOULDN'T STRAIN YOURSELF SO MUCH SURVEYING ALL THESE BUSINESSES LIKE THIS.

LUYANG

SPEAKING OF WHICH, THE SHOPS IN THESE REGIONS ARE DOING PRETTY WELL.

THESE ARE ALL SIMA CLAN'S ASSETS. HOW COULD I NOT WORRY ABOUT THEM?

CHAPTER 264 IMPENDING STORMS

YES. YOUNG MASTER HAD LEARNED ALL THE BEST TRICKS FROM YOU!

THANKS.

WE JUST HEARD NEWS THAT THE CAO ARMY HAS LOCKED DOWN THE CITY. YOU SHOULD REST HERE FOR NOW, MA'AM.

PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR THE POOR WELCOME. I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE VISITING.

I DIDN'T EXPECT THE SIMA CLAN TO TAKE AN INTEREST IN THIS TRADE.

BUNS?

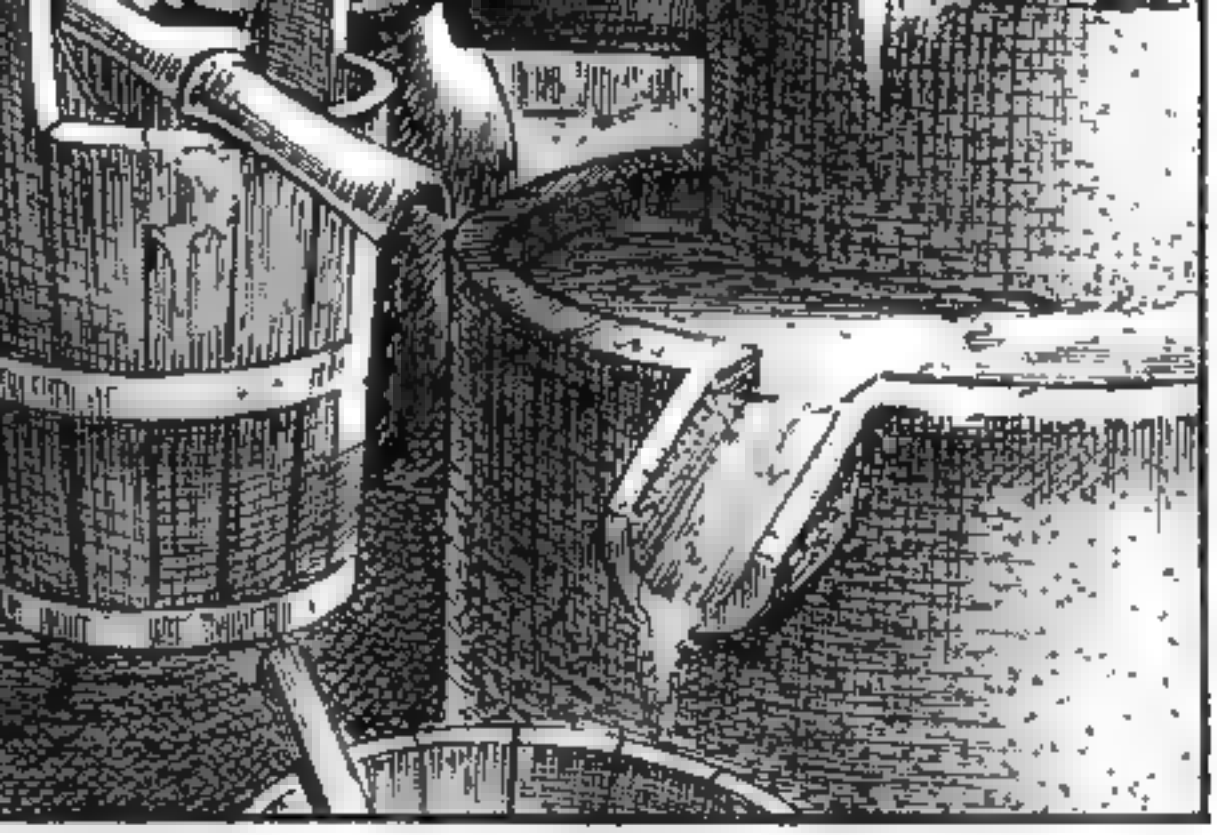
NO WONDER ZHONG DA STILL GOES OUT OF HIS WAY TO KEEP THE BUSINESS GOING.

NONONO, THIS SHOP IS OWNED BY MASTER LIAOYUAN.

YOU MAY NOT KNOW THIS, MA'AM, BUT YOUNG MASTER IS NOT THE ONLY PERSON WHO CARES ABOUT THIS SHOP.

HOO. THAT GUY SURE IS NOSTAL-GIC.

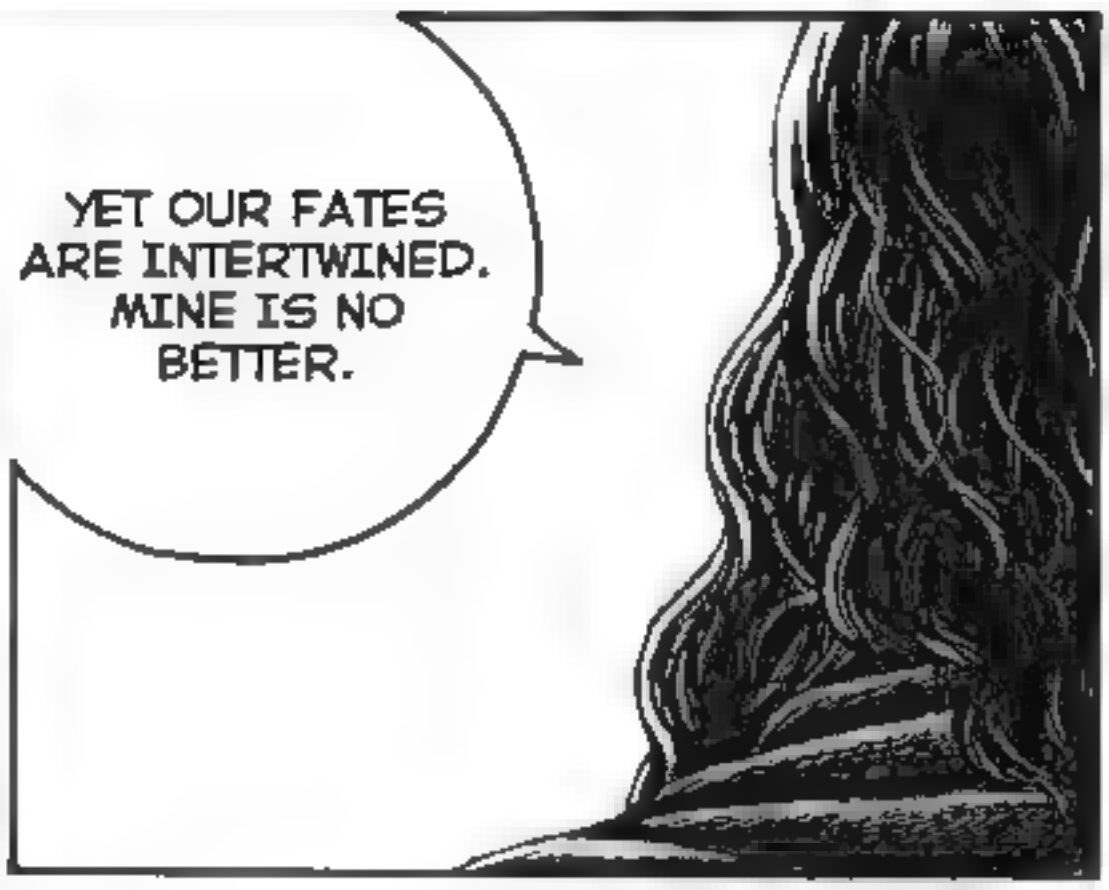
EVER SINCE THE DISAPP-EARANCE OF MASTER LIAO-YUAN, IF IT WASN'T FOR HIS CARE, THIS PLACE ...



MURDER FOR OTHER PEOPLE, THEN START A LOSING BUSINESS.

HE MANAGED TO ACHIEVE NOTHING ALL THESE YEARS.
MY OLDEST APPRENTICE HAS THE SKILL BUT NOT THE ASPIRATION TO DO GREAT THINGS.

THOUGH THERE IS ONE GOOD THING ABOUT THIS SHOP.


YET OUR FATES ARE INTERTWINED. MINE IS NO BETTER.

IT REMINDS ME HOW TO TREAD MY PATH.

DON'T WORRY, TEACHER, I WON'T LET YOU DOWN.

NUMBER TWO HAS DIED. THIRD AND FOURTH WILL FOLLOW YOU FROM NOW ON.

YOU ARE EXCEPTIONALLY GIFTED. I STAKE EVERYTHING ON YOU.

YOU KEPT THE BUSINESSES IN PERFECT ORDER WHILE THE MRS. WAS AWAY. YOU HAVE LEARNED ALL THERE IS TO LEARN ABOUT MANAGEMENT.

MISTER MA,

YES-SIR.

A BIG CLAN NEEDS TALENTS LIKE YOU THE MOST.

THAT MEANS I SHOULD LEAVE NOW?

TO BE HONEST, WE HAD COMPETITION.

WHY DID THE BUSINESS DROP SO MUCH WHILE I WAS AWAY THESE MONTHS? WHAT HAPPENED?

A NEW SHOP NEARBY?

THEIR BUNS TASTED BETTER THAN OURS?

NO. THEY DON'T SELL BUNS.

YES. RECENTLY SOME NEW SHOPS OPENED ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MARKET. THEY ARE DOING BETTER AND BETTER EACH DAY.

NO WON-DER.

THEY USED TO SELL ENCHANTED WATER. NOW THEY'RE SELLING FLAT CAKES?

THEY ALSO TREAT SICKNESS, RIGHT?

I HAD GONE THROUGH IT BEFORE. HOW COULD I NOT KNOW?

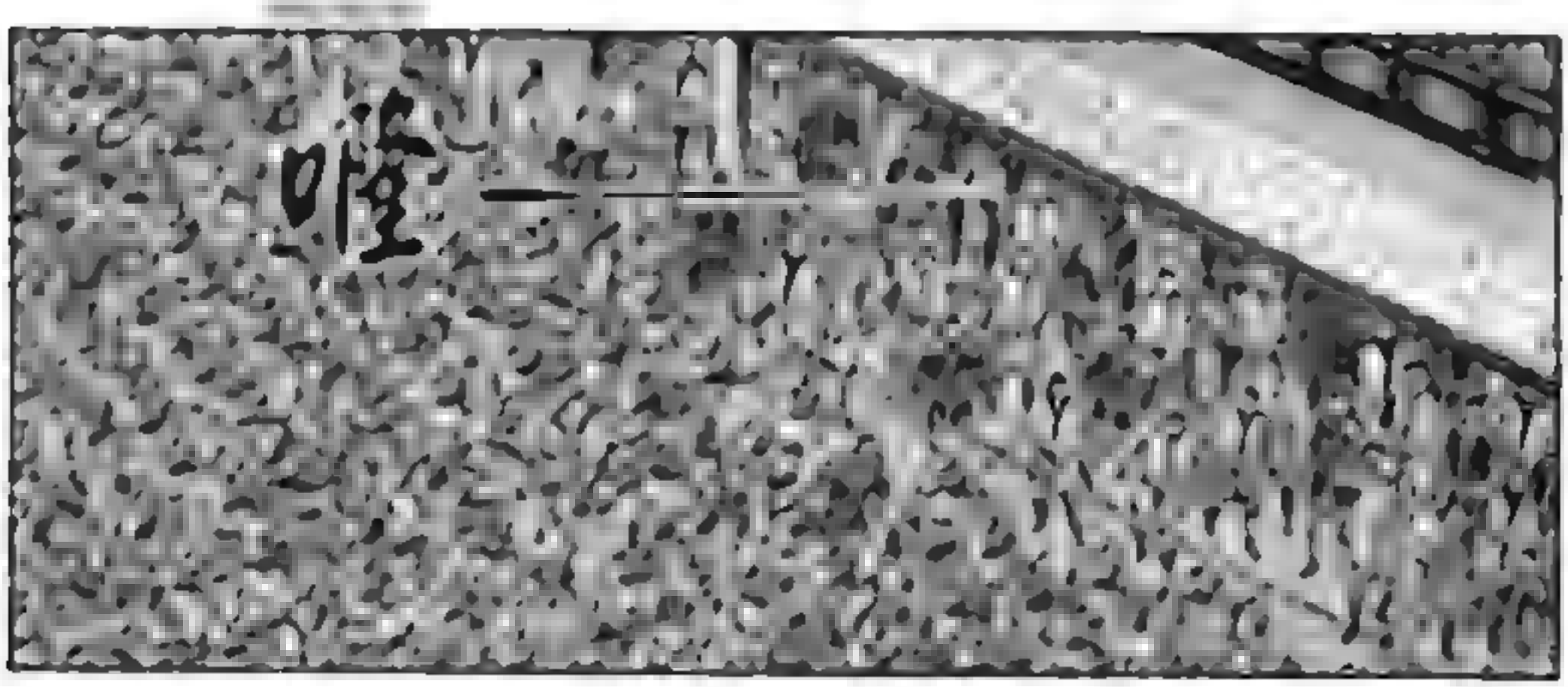
HOW DO YOU KNOW, BOSS?

TAIPING DAOISTS ARE ONLY GOOD AT THIS.

GOOD NEWS, MANAGER!

YOU MEAN THE YELLOW TURBAN REBELS ARE TRYING TO START OVER?

SO THAT'S WHY THEY LOCKED DOWN THE CITY!



SHUT IT DOWN,
SHUT IT DOWN!

SPIRITS
PROTECT
US!

LOOK
THEY SHOT
POCKETS
THAT
SHOP

PROTECT MY ALL-BENEFITING ALL-DECENT SHOP! DON'T LET THE OFFICERS TAKE IT!

PROTECT THE SHOP WITH OUR LIVES!

PROTECT US, SPIRITS! PROTECT IT WITH OUR LIVES!

PROTECT THE SHOP WITH OUR LIVES! CHARGE!

ARE... ARE THEY NOT AFRAID OF DEATH?

IT'S LIKE THEY HAVE GONE MAD.

OUR ORDER IS TO LEAVE NONE ALIVE!

KILL

KILL

AHH!

SHOULD WE SAVE THIS MAN? ADVISOR CHENG?

CAO CAO'S MILITARY ADVISOR

CHEN YU

NO NEED! GIVE THEM ENCHANTED FLAT CAKES. LET THEM TREAT THEMSELVES.

ENCHANTED FLAT CAKES CAN SAVE PEOPLE? (LIKE) HELL!

THAT'S RIGHT.

IT IS THE BEST STRATEGY AGAINST THEM.

HURRY AND NOTIFY THE ADVISORS. TELL THEM...

THIS AGAIN.

山海経

(BOOK. COLLECTION OF THE MOUNTAINS AND SEAS)

THEN SEND SOME MEN TO SEARCH THE AREA. DON'T LEAVE ANY OF THIS KIND ALIVE.

YES-SIR.

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW THE SEVERITY OF THE SITUATION.

HE SURE IS DECISIVE.

THOSE BASTARDS ARE BACK.

I HAVE RETURNED SAFE AND SOUND. YOU CAN GO NOW WITHOUT WORRIES.

SIS.

YOU MEAN...

THIS ORGANIZ-ATION IS EVERYWHERE, AND THEY ARE GOOD AT CON-TROLLING MINDS.

IF IT'S LIKE THIS (EVEN) HERE, THERE MUST BE MORE IN OTHER PARTS.

THE THREE ZHANG BROTHERS HAVE STIRRED UP QUITE A STORM ALREADY. THE REMAINING FEW WANT TO PLAY THE SAME OLD TRICK.

SO IT'S THAT KIND OF WARFARE?

YES. CULTISM BRAIN-WASHING.

THE ASHES REIGNITES. THIS TIME IT MAY BE MORE DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH NOW THAT THEY HAVE LEARNED FROM PAST EXPERIENCE.

TROUBLES ARE BREWING IN THE EASTERN REGION. WORDS REALLY GET AROUND IN PLACES LIKE THIS.

TELL THEM TO TAKE OUT ANYONE WHO SELLS CHARMS TO CURE DISEASE, OR TALK OF HEAVENLY IDEALS.

GO GET READY WHILE THE CITY IS STILL UNDER A LOCK-DOWN.

YES-SIR.

THE MOST DESPICABLE TACTIC THERE IS.

XU SHENG AND PAN ZHANG HAVE FOLLOWED YOU FOR YEARS. BUT YOU ARE FINALLY LETTING THEM GO.

YOUNG MASTER,

I FEEL THAT MY "DEFEATED OFFICERS" WILL BECOME EXTRAORDINARY IN HIS CARE.

NOT TO WORRY, TEACHER. I'M NOT INTERESTED IN BUNS.

YOU'RE WELCOME AT THE BUN SHOP IF YOU EVER FORGET YOUR GOAL.

A TIGER'S CUB STILL CRAVES BLOOD.

HE'S GOT SPIRIT.

("HAS ASPIRATION")

THEN MAKE SOME BABIES ALREADY.

I WANT A SON LIKE THAT TOO.

BUGGER OFF.

OATH SISTER, TEACHER.

YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND.

ZHONG MOU IS HEADING OUT.

THE NEW WAVE HAS DROWNED ME

(THEY HAVE)
GONE MAD.

EVERYONE IN THE CITY HAVE BEEN SCARED OUT OF THEIR

THE SCARY PART

IS NOT THAT THEIR SOLDIERS NEVER RETURNED AGAIN

CHAPTER 265 STRAIGHT TO THE CORE

THE SCARY
PART IS THIS
MAN OUTSIDE
THE CITY -

WHO HAS JUST ENTERED.

FATHER ...

I DON'T WANT TO DIE... NO...

SFX CHA~

嚓

FATHER... NO... DON'T!

GONGSUN ZAN

NO...

MY SON

FEAR NOT!

YOU HAVE BEEN FREED (FROM MISERY)!

MY SON, FEAR NOT!

HE'S HERE!

HE'S HERE!

("(HERE) HE COMES")

HELL'S LING IS HERE!

YUAN SHAO'S MILITARY ADVISOR

YUAN FANG

DON'T COME ANY CLOSER

NO MORE!
NO MORE!

SFX: SLIDE FINGER ACROSS THROAT

SFX: SLIDE FINGER ACROSS THROAT

HELL'S...

HELL'S...

VICTORY!

KING.

SFX: CROWD CHEERING

嘩

FROM SIEGING THE CITY TO CUTTING THE SUPPLY LINE TO ENDING AN ALLY. WITHIN A FEW MONTHS YUJING HAS TURNED INTO A LIVING HELL.

HAVING SUFFERED PSYCHOLOGICAL TORMENT TO A BREAKING POINT, GONGSUN ZAN KILLED HIS WHOLE FAMILY THEN SLIT HIS OWN THROAT.

THE THORN HAS FINALLY BEEN REMOVED.

IN 199 A.D., THE ENTIRE NORTHERN LANDS FELL INTO THE HANDS OF THE YUAN CLAN.

THE EXTERNAL TROUBLE FROM THE NORTH HAS BEEN ELIMINATED. NOW IT'S JUST THE "INTERNAL" TROUBLE WITHIN OUR CLAN.

SO WHAT IS FANG-ER'S NEXT MOVE?

GENERAL-IN-CHIEF
YUAN SHAO

SO IT'S TIME TO HAND OVER YUAN SHU.

WEN CHOU

IF CAO CAO MOBILIZES HIS FORCES, WE WILL ATTACK HIM FROM BOTH SIDES.

FIGHTING AGAINST HAN WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BRING WIDESPREAD DISSENT FROM THE CLAN ELDERS. THIS WON'T BE EASY.

YES. YOUNG MASTER'S PLAN IS TO GET CAO CAO TO CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE ZHONGJIA EMPEROR.

ONCE IN PLAY, THIS SCHEME WILL JUSTIFY THE WAR AGAINST CAO AND WIN THE SUPPORT WITHIN OUR CLAN.

NO, YOUNG MASTER ALREADY HAD A PERFECT SCHEME.

HE'S SAYING...

THAT TOKEN OBJECT YUAN SHU HANDED OVER.

THE IMPERIAL SEAL.

IF THE EMPEROR APPROVES, HE WILL NOTIFY THE LORDS IN VARIOUS REGIONS. THIS WILL REDOUBLE OUR EFFORTS ONCE THE FIGHTING STARTS.

SECRETLY RETURN IT TO THE EMPEROR, FIRST AS A PLEDGE SHOWING OUR DETERMINATION TO SUPPORT IMPERIAL HAN, AND SECOND, TO GIVE YUAN SHU THE CHANCE TO REDEEM HIMSELF.

FEASIBLE IN THEORY, BUT IN PRACTICE ...

YOU REMEMBER THE RECENT "OPERATION INSECTICIDE", RIGHT, MY LORD?

ARE YOU WORRIED THAT THE EMPEROR LACKS INTERNAL SUPPORT TO TAKE ON CAO CAO?

YES.

WITH THESE PEOPLE OUT OF THE WAY, CAO CAO WILL BE EVEN MORE FEARLESS.

THE DEATH OF LU BU GAVE CAO CAO THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO ELIMINATE HIS DISSENTERS.

DON'T WORRY, MY LORD. YOUNG MASTER HAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED CONTACT WITH MEMBERS OF THE COURT.

CAO CAO MIGHT THINK THAT THE COURT IS NOW FREE OF BUGS, BUT THEY ARE ACTUALLY PREPARING FOR THEIR MOMENT TO STRIKE.

MESSAGES TRAVEL SECRETLY. CAO CAO HAS ONLY ELIMINATED A BUNCH OF SCAPE-GOATS.

XILIANG'S MA TENG HAS ARRIVED AT COURT TO DELIVER HIS JOB REPORT, BUT THAT'S ONLY A COVER.

WHO'S THE LEAD?

MY LORD, CAO CAO IS NOT VERY CAUTIOUS AGAINST THE COURT RIGHT NOW. IT IS THE RIGHT TIME TO STRIKE BACK.

YES. IT IS ALSO ABOUT TIME FOR THE AGE OLD CHASM WITHIN OUR CLAN TO DISSIPATE.

WEN CHOU,

FANG-ER, YOU JUST GAVE THE YUAN CLAN A REASON TO REVOLT.

TELL YUAN SHU TO KEEP PROVOKING CAO CAO.

OLD CITY RUINS WEST OF THE CITY

XU CAPITAL

YOU MEAN ALL OUR CONTACTS WERE KILLED?

YES. WE ARE NOW ALONE IN THIS FIGHT.

HOO.

IMPOSS-IBLE!

HOW COULD THOSE MEN REVOLT?

SOMETHING ELSE IS AT WORK HERE.

BIG BROTHER, WE SHOULD FIND AN EXCUSE AND LEAVE AFTER WE MEET HIS MAJESTY.

THE COURT IS GOING THROUGH AN EVENTFUL PERIOD.

WAIT A BIT LONGER.

WHOEVER INVITED US HERE MUST NOT BE AN AVERAGE FIGURE.

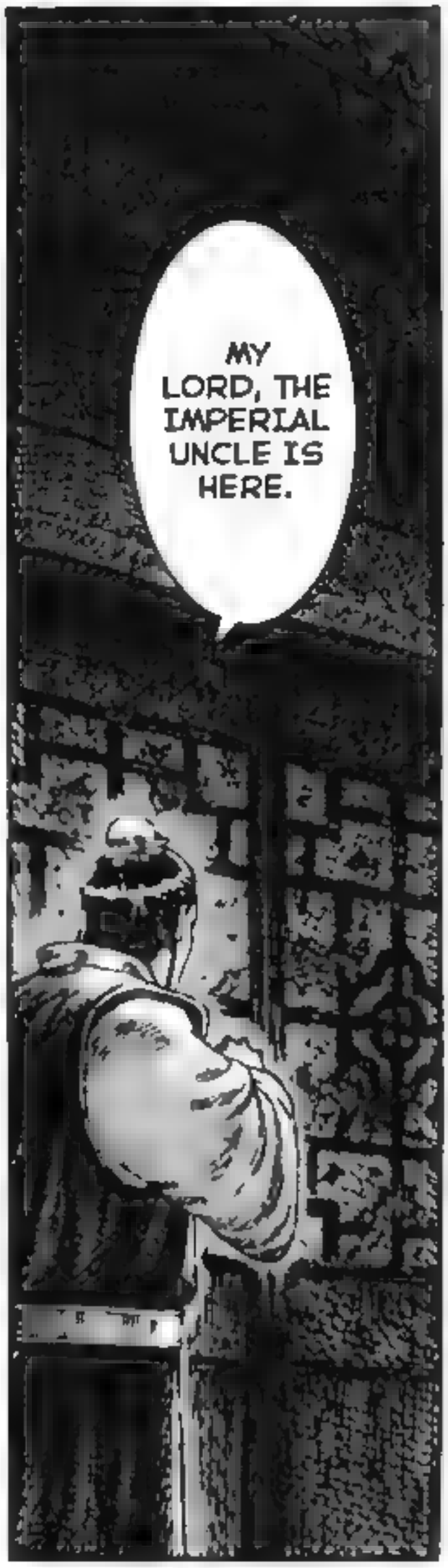
IF MY CALCULATION IS CORRECT, WE ARE RIGHT ON TIME.

LET'S WAIT AND SEE.

PLEASE FOLLOW ME THEN.

STOP LOOKING. I'M NOT BEING FOLLOWED.

LIU BEI'S HONOR IS WORLD-RENOWNED.


MY LORD, THE IMPERIAL UNCLE IS HERE.

HAHA, STRAIGHT TO THE CORE OF IMPERIAL HAN.

WELCOME TO THE CITY, "KING OF BENEVOLENCE."

THEN DONG CHENG TOOK OUT AN
EMPEROR'S BELT,
WHICH CONTAINED A SECRET COMMAND.

STRAIGHT
TO THE
[illegible]

[illegible]
ADVANCED
BY [illegible]
[illegible]

SIR!
SUN CE
IS JUST
AHEAD
OF US!

FORMA
TIONS!

TOWARD
THE
[illegible]

SCANNER: HMM, WONDERLAND SCANNING GROUP
TRANSLATIONS: MERC, HTTP://RAVAGINGTIMES.WORDPRESS.COM/
EDITS: KI SHODAR, HTTP://MEMBERS.OPTUSNET.COM.AU/SHODAR

CHAPTER 266 HEAVEN PROTECTS THE DESCENDANT

EAST WU'S KIN
OF MORALS

YAN
BAI
HU

THAT LAD'S GOOD - MADE IT ALL THIS WAY IN A MERE FEW MONTHS!

LIU YAO'S ALLIES ARE SO FRAGILE. IT'S FRUSTR-ATING THAT NOW WE HAVE TO PAY FOR THEIR INCOM-PETENCE.

GENERALS, IF WE LOSE THE SOUTHERN LANDS WE'RE DONE FOR. ACT NOW!

OUR CROP FIELDS ARE TO THE SOUTH. THEY MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO GET THERE.

THE WORLD IS IN CHAOS, AND THE PEOPLE CAN BARELY SURVIVE THE DAY. OUR ENEMY WANTS TO TAKE THE ADVANTAGE AND PLUNGE THE EASTERN REGION IN TURMOIL!

WE PEOPLE OF THE EASTERN REGION MUST NEVER LET THEM MESS WITH US!

HEAVEN PROTECTS THE EASTERN REGION!

HAVING DOMINATED THE REGION FOR ALL THESE YEARS, WHO'S AFRAID OF THAT MONKEY BOY!*

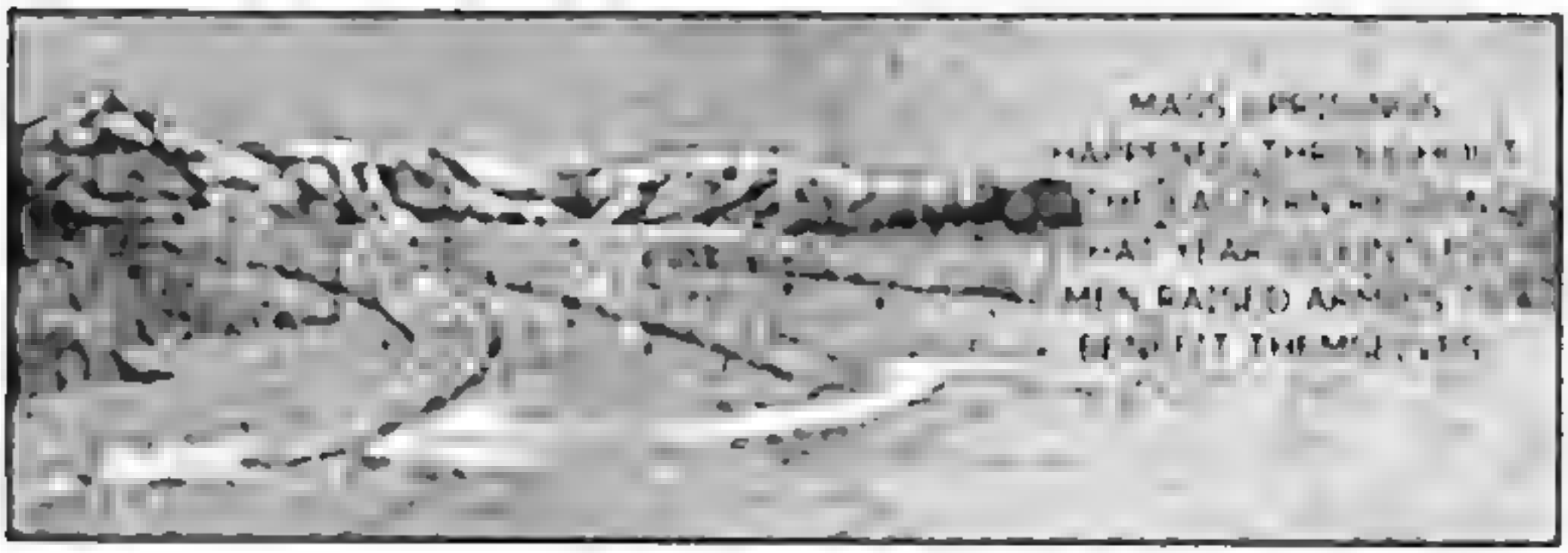
*, WUKONG'S HOMONYM SUN ,

THEY MIGHT HAVE DEFEATED LIU YAO'S ALLIED FORCES, BUT HAVING BEEN WORN OUT BY BATTLE, THEY ARE NOW HANGING ONTO THEIR LAST BIT OF STRENGTH!

HEAVEN PROTECTS OUR LORD EAST WU'S KING OF MORALS!

KILL!

KILL



THEIR LEFT AND RIGHT FLANKS INTEND TO SURROUND US.

THE CENTER IS THEIR MAIN FORCE. IT LOOKS POWERFUL.

ZHOU TAI

WHO KNEW WE WOULD MEET OUR OWN KIND A FEW MONTHS INTO THE EASTERN REGION

CHENG PU

(AS IN SOMEONE

GENTLEMAN SUN! SOMEBODY HAS SUMMONED YOUR ANCESTOR!

HUANG GAI

THEIR MARCHING IS ORDERLY AND BRISK. THEY KNOW THEIR FORMATIONS FROM THE INSIDE OUT.

WHAT DO YOU THINK, GENERAL?

OUR ENEMY IS USING THE ART OF OFFENSIVE AND BESIEGING TACTICS FROM SUN-ZI'S TEACHING. SO IT APPEARS THEY OUTNUMBER US.

TAISHI CI

BUT YOUR ANCESTOR ALSO SAID, CONTROL A LARGE FORCE LIKE A SMALL FORCE: DIVIDE AND CONQUER. FIGHT A LARGE ARMY LIKE A SMALL ARMY: USE SIGNS AND SIGNALS.

GENERAL WHO GLORIFIES THE HAN

SUN CE

GENTLEMAN ZHOU! FULL FRONTAL ASSAULT!

THE ENERGY CHAPTER SAYS, DIRECT ATTACK JOINS THE BATTLE; "INGENUITY" SECURES VICTORY.

GOOD.

FIFTH GENIUS OF WATERMIRROR'S SCHOOL

ZHOU YU

AND I HAVE ALWAYS WANTED A MATCH AGAINST SIR SUN.

I HAVE ALWAYS HEARD THAT OUR ENEMY IS WELL-VERSED IN SUN-ZI'S ART OF WAR.

OUR ARMY TRAVELED HERE AND RESTED FOR FOUR HOURS. THE ENEMY MOBILIZED AND HURRIED HERE FOR SIX HOURS.

SEVENTY-PERCENT ENERGY FOR THEM, THIRTY-PERCENT FOR US. ANOTHER TEN IN THE RAIN ONCE THEY RUN ACROSS THIS MUDDY TERRAIN. SIXTY-PERCENT FOR THEM, FORTY FOR US. SCATTER!

SCATTER EVENLY!

BY THE ADVISOR'S ORDER, SCATTER EVENLY!

WALK. SAVE YOUR ENERGY!

COMMANDER, THE ENEMY IS MAKING A SPARSE FORMATION!

HAHA, SUN-ZI'S DESCENDANT WON'T USE SUN-ZI'S ART OF WAR?

SIR! THEIR TWO FLANKS ARE TURNING!

THEY MUST FEEL INFERIOR TO OUR FORMATION, AND ARE MESSING UP THEIR OWN.

FASTER! LET'S TAKE DOWN THEIR CENTER FIRST!

COLLECT AND CONCENTRATE. FULL SPEED AHEAD!

THE ENEMY WANTS TO SCATTER OUR FORCES, BUT WE OUTNUMBER THEM! CENTER, SPRINT FORWARD!

ADVANCING FOR A THOUSAND STEPS. THEIR CENTER FORCE HAS FIFTY-PERCENT ENERGY, SO DO WE.

... THE LEFT AND RIGHT FLANKS HAVE ADDED THEIR DISTANCE!

AND THE CENTER IS INCREASING IN SPEED AS WELL!

FIFTY-PERCENT LEFT. THEIR ENERGY HAS DIMINISHED AGAIN!

HUANG GAI, ZHOU TAI!

HERE!

IN THIS WEATHER, EVERY THOUSAND STEPS MEANS ONE GRADE DEPLETION IN ENERGY.

LEFT AND RIGHT INFANTRY WILL MARCH FIRST!

HUANG GAI IN LINE!

ZHOU TAI IN LINE!

CHENG PU!

HERE!

PROTECT OUR TWO SIDES. BLOCK TO DEFEND, NOT TO WIN!

TAISHI CI!

SHIELD WIELDER FORMATION. LURE THE ENEMY IN FOR FIVE HUNDRED STEPS USING A CONSTANT RETREAT!

YES-SIR!

CHENG PU WILL DEPLOY!

HERE!

TAKE THEIR COMMANDER WHEN THEIR CENTER GROWS WEARY!

TAISHI CI LEADS FORMATION!

MY THOUGHTS EXACTLY!

A MUDDY TERRAIN AHEAD. FORTY-PERCENT ENERGY FOR THE ENEMY, SIXTY FOR US!

GENTLEMAN SUN!

PA

NO!

YAN BAI HU AHEAD!

THE EASTERN REGION.

IT'S THE EASTERN REGION!

LET US TAKE IT THEN!

EASTERN REGION!

WATCH OUT FOR THE MUD!

AUGH!

AUGH!

AUGH!

SUN-ZI! I'LL BE TEACHING YOUR DESCENDANT A LESSON!

(WORDPLAY: REVERSE THE TWO HANZI "SUN ZI" AND YOU GET "ZI SUN" WHICH MEANS "DESCENDANT")

ANCESTOR!

LET'S SEE IF YOU WILL PROTECT ME!

KILL

KILL

FIGHTING IN MUD WEARS DOWN SOLDIERS THE FASTEST. AN EXTRA THOUSAND STEPS WILL TURN THE TIDE.

THE ARMY OF THE KING OF MORALS HAS GONE IN TOO DEEP, SPEEDING UP THE DEPLETION OF THEIR MAIN FORCE'S ENERGY. THE TWO FLANKS HAVE BEEN SEPARATED. THE CENTER IS IN DANGER.

I THOUGHT SUN CE WOULD LOSE, BUT NOW HE HAS GAINED THE UPPER HAND.

THIS REMINDS ME HOW THE YELLOW TURBANS LOST FOR THE SAME REASON.

THEY USE THEIR FORCE WELL. NO WONDER SUN CE ARMY'S MORALE IS STILL HIGH AFTER CONSECUTIVE BATTLES.

THIS TIME WE WON'T MISS.

BUT WE LEARNED. OH HAVE WE LEARNED.

BUT NOW THE EIGHT GENIUSES HAVE JOINED THE FIGHT. ARE YOU NOT AFRAID, GREAT SAINT?

THE INTRODUCTION OF EIGHT GENIUSES ONLY MADE THE BLOODSHED WORSE. INSTILLING MORE FEAR AND CHAOS IN PEOPLE'S HEARTS.

THE SON OF HEAVEN HAS LOST HIS INFLUENCE. THE GREAT HAN IS BUT AN EMPTY NAME. THAT'S THE ***RIGHT TIMING***. WARLORDS DIVIDE THE LAND AND WREAK HAVOC. THAT'S THE ***RIGHT LOCATION***.

WE LAID IN DORMANT ALL THIS TIME JUST TO WAIT FOR MASTER WATERMIRROR TO ESTABLISH THE ***RIGHT PEOPLE***.

WHEN ALL THEY DO IS MAKE WAR, THE PEOPLE ARE STILL THE ONLY VICTIMS.

SPEAKING OF BRINGING CHAOS, HOW ARE THE EIGHT GENIUSES ANY DIFFERENT THAN THE TEN ATTENDANTS BACK THEN?

THIS IS ANOTHER KIND OF OMEN.

AN OMEN THAT THE WAY
OF TAIPING HAS RETURNED.

THE RAIN STOPPED. SUN-ZI STILL
TAKES CARE OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

IF YOU CAN CONTROL ILLNESS, YOU CAN CONTROL THE WORLD.

DOCTORS PRACTICE THE "WAY" OF DECEPTION

ONLY CELESTIAL METHODS CAN CURE HIM.

DON'T BE AFRAID.

THIS MAN HAS A TERMINAL ILLNESS.

CHAPTER 267 RETURN OF THE WAY OF EVIL

WAAAAAH...

MASTER! IT HURTS! IT HURTS!

IT SHOULD, BECAUSE I HAVE REACHED THE AFFECTED AREA.

WATERMIRROR' SEVENTH GENIUS

CHA!

HE... HE DUG IN!

SO MUCH BLOOD!

OWW! AHH! IT REALLY HURTS!

TREAT THE TREAT-ABLE, IF NOT -

LOOK! EXACTLY LIKE WHAT WE SAW LAST TIME!

SFX: PA

da

EXACTLY LIKE IT! EXACTLY LIKE IT!

AMAZING! THAT'S SO AMAZING!

EV... EVEN INTESTINES GOT PULLED OUT!

IF YOU JOIN MY (RELIGION) CULT BUT HARBOR WICKED THOUGHTS AND DO UNRIGHTEOUS THINGS, THIS SERIOUS ILLNESS WILL JUST RETURN.

TREAT THEM WITH PSYCHOL-OGY!

LOOK, THERE'S ONLY BLOOD, BUT NO WOUND!

LIKE... LIKE A MIRACLE!

PURE MIS-DIRECTION.

HAHA HA.

A NICE SHOW OF "ZHUGE PLAYS GOD."

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE AN EXPERT WITH THAT TRICK.

WATERMIRROR'S SIXTH GENIUS

PANG TONG

THE SITUATION IS GRAVE. YOU CAME BACK TOO, RIGHT?

WHY ARE YOU BACK?

UNDER-STOOD.

ASSISTANT INSTRUCTOR, PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT THE LEFT HAND IS DOING. STUDY IT WELL, EVERYONE.

ENCHANTED WATER, CURING DISEASES.

SIMA
HUI

THESE MEN ARE EXPERTS

RECKLESS.

SO THEY ARE FROM THE SAME CULT AS THE ZHANG JIAO BRO-THERS?

HAHA. IMMORTALS SHOULD BE FREE OF DESIRE. WHY WOULD THEY ACT THIS WAY?

YES. AND THESE "DOCTORS" NOW WANT TO BE LITERATI AND OFFICIAL-DOM TOO.

THERE IS A GROUP OF SCHOLARS WHO HAS NOTHING BUT PRAISE FOR HIM.

THE NANHUA IMMORTAL IS WORLD RENOWNED.

PEOPLE ARE EASILY INSTIGATED DURING TURBULENT WAR TIMES.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED ON YOUR TRIP, FLEDGLING PHOENIX?

BUT THEY DON'T KNOW THAT HE'S JUST A BASTARD WHO PRETENDS TO BE ZHUANG-ZI.

SO IT SEEMS THAT THE OTHER CULTS WILL SHOW THEIR COLORS TOO ONCE CHAOS BREAKS OUT IN THE EAST.

"THE WAY OF TAIPING" IS THE BEST KNOWN ONE IN THE EAST; AND "FIVE PECKS OF RICE" HAS TAKEN A FOOTHOLD IN THE SOUTHWEST.

I BET THEOCRACY WILL SOON TAKE SHAPE IN HANZHONG.

"FIVE PECKS OF RICE"... WOW. SO THEY HAD A BACKUP PLAN ALL ALONG.

PERSUASION PLUS SOME TRICKERY, AND THE PEOPLE WILL BE AT YOUR BECK AND CALL.

THE BIGGEST HEADACHE IN WAR PLANNING IS RAISING FUNDS. BUT THEIR METHOD OF WARFARE CAN PROFIT FROM NOTHING.

THEY MIGHT BE ABOUT HERESY, BUT IF USED APPROPRIATELY, THEIR METHODS MAY CALM THE MASSES BETTER THAN RESTORING IMPERIAL HAN.

WRONG!

RELIGION NEVER ADVOCATES FOR KILLING!

RELIGION GUIDES PEOPLE TOWARD DOING GOOD. IF THEY UNDERSTAND THAT, IT WILL BE LIKE CONFUCIUS' TEACHING OF RIGHTEOUSNESS ...

BECAUSE TRUE RELIGION ADVOCATES FOR PEACE, KINDNESS AND LOVE.

BUT ANY EXTENSION INTO VIOLENCE WILL MAKE IT AN EVIL CULT!

THAT KIND OF "DAO" MAY BE FLAWLESS IN THE BEGINNING. BUT EVENTUALLY THE FOLLOWERS WILL SIMPLY GO WITH THE FLOW, CHANGING BEYOND RECOGNITION.

DAOISM IS PURE LIKE WATER. IF THE PREACHER IS A FILTHY CONTAINER, WHAT DAOISM WATER POURS OUT WILL BE SPOILED.

UNDER-STOOD!

EXCUSE US.

STAY HERE AGAIN, AND TEACH THEM WELL. MAKE SURE THE STUDENTS UNDERSTAND THE TRUTH AND WILL ALSO DISCOURAGE THEIR LORDS FROM GOING ASTRAY.

THE TAIPING DAOISM HAS BEEN DESTROYED FOR YEARS,

BUT THAT "IMMORTAL" IS STILL ALIVE - REEMERGING FROM THE ASHES WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.

LUCKILY YOU HAD PLANNED FOR IT, MASTER. I KNOW THAT EASTERN CULT FROM THE INSIDE OUT.

(NOT "TEACHER", BUT MASTER, ALMOST LIKE HOW ZHANG ZHAO REFERS TO WATERMIRROR AS MASTER,

CAN IT BE CONTROLLED?

THEY LURKED FOR YEARS, AND THIS IS THE YEAR TO RESURFACE, JUST LIKE YOU PREDICTED.

CAO AND YUAN'S FACTIONS EACH HAS OUR GENIUSES WITH THEM, AND THEIR POLITICAL SITUATION IS STABLE. NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

ESPECIALLY SINCE THE SUN CLAN IS ONLY BEGINNING TO STRENGTHEN. THEY ARE NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO HANDLE IT.

BUT THE EASTERN REGION IS A LARGE TERRITORY. AND THE CONSTANT FIGHTING ADDS TO MY CONCERN.

THE NEW CHAOS OF THE EASTERN REGION IS THEIR MOST IMPORTANT APPETIZER. I'M AFRAID...

HE'S A DESCENDANT OF A LOYALIST. WE CAN'T STAND BY AND DO NOTHING.

YOU'RE AFRAID THAT ZHOU YU CAN TAKE ON EXTERNAL THREATS IN STRIDE, BUT NOT THE INTERNAL ONES...

HUA TUO

SONG JIN IS THE NUMBER ONE GENIUS WHEN IT COMES TO [illegible]

EXAC-TLY.

YOU MEAN THEY HAVE DEVELOPED SO MUCH THAT THEY CAN CONTROL THE EASTERN REGION WITHOUT USING AN ARMY?

BUT THESE MEN PLAY MIND GAMES. I'M AFRAID EVEN OUR OWN PEOPLE WILL FALL FOR THEIR TRICKS.

SUN CE RUINED THEIR PLAN, ATTRACTING THEIR DIRECT ANIMOSITY.

YES. ACTUALLY, MANY CIVILIANS WHO REVOLTED ARE ALREADY SERVING HIM.

HUA TUO, WHO IS THIS MAN?

THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE SET TO WIN, BUT...

BANNER READS LANGYE YU JI

THE GUY WHO TAUGHT ME ALL ABOUT MEDICINE.

YU JI.

MORALE REMAINED

THE ARMY HAS ARRIVED AT THE

THE CITY OF HUIJI.

HEADQUARTERS OF YAN BAI HU'S

ONCE I REPORT TO MY LORD WE WILL DISPATCH REIN-FORCEMENTS IMMEDIATELY!

CHAPTER 268 A GOOD RECIPE FOR VALUE APPRECIATION

SUN CE HAS TAKEN DOWN MANY OF MY CITIES. ALL'S LOST; I'VE GOT NOWHERE LEFT TO GO!

THIS MAN'S TOUGH; YOU CAN'T FIGHT HIM HEAD ON. PLEASE LET ME IN TO HELP WITH THE DEFENSES!

SIR! MORE AND MORE TROOPS ARE APPEARING ON THE OUTSKIRTS!

GOOD WORK. MY MASTER HAS STATED THAT YOUR LIFE WILL BE SPARED ONCE THE GATE OPENS!

SUN CE'S ARMY IS HERE. LET LORD YAN COME IN IMMEDIATELY!

YOU CAN GO NOW, YAN BAI HU.

LET'S HEAD ON IN, MY BROTHERS!

TEAM TWO, CARRY OUT THE PLAN!

GENERAL, THAT MAN LOOKS FAMILIAR!

THEN THAT MEANS SUN... SUN...

I KNOW HIM - HE'S SUN JIAN'S SUBORDINATE HUANG GAI!

WHAT DID YOU SAY? HUANG... GAI?

SIR! THE SOUTHERN GATE HAS BEEN BREACHED THE ENEMY IS ALREADY IN [illegible]

HURRY AND LEAD A TROOP TO STOP THEIR ADVANCES!

[illegible]

OH NO, THEIR CAVALRY ENTERED [illegible]

SUN CE'S ARMY HAS ENTERED THE CITY!

SUN CE HAS ENTERED THE CITY!

YES-SIR!

FIVE OF YOU, COME WITH ME!

TAKE ARMS! FIGHT TO THE DEATH!

KILL

FORWARD!

嗥

GUARD THIS ENTRANCE, MY BROTHERS!

JIANG QIN'S TROOP HAS ENTERED!

KILL

KILL

WANG LANG

WE'VE LOST THE EAST GATE TOO, MY LORD! WE CAN'T SECURE THE CITY ANYMORE!

[illegible] IS AT THE NORTH GATE. LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

GUARD THE GATE!

THEY CAME SO FAST, CAN IT BE THAT...

BE CAREFUL, EVERYBODY!

FRONT, TWO TEAMS, SO FAST!

UP ONE FRONT!

FIRE!

DIRECT ATTACK TO JOIN FORCES!

雄

SFX: PONG~

KILL

錆

AND TAISHI CI!

SUN... SUN CE!

KILL

RETREAT... RETREAT TO BASE! RETREAT TO BASE!

EXIT THROUGH THE NORTH GATE!

RETREAT —

THEY... THEY MUST HAVE AN INSIDER IN THE CITY!

SUN CE HAS ENTERED THE CITY!

PACK UP THINGS THAT ARE EASY TO CARRY. FORGET THE REST!

OH, WHERE IS MASTER?

NORTH GATE, HEAD FOR THE NORTH GATE, EVERYBODY!

APOLOGIES. YOU MUST BE FRIGHTENED, MASTER QIAO.

DON'T WORRY. MASTER HAS RENOWNED MERC-ENARIES TO PROTECT HIM. HE'LL BE FINE.

STOP JOSTLING. SOMEONE FELL!

YOU...

THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD, MASTER QIAO.

TAKE... TAKE EVERYTHING YOU WANT. JUST...

YOU THINK WE "DEFEATED OFFICERS" ARE AFTER SUCH THINGS?

SUN QUAN

PA

THESE PHILISTINE PROPERTIES ARE NOT THE ONLY THINGS YOU OWN, MASTER QIAO.

XU SHENG

TA

TA

FATHER!

PAN ZHANG

WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT, BOY!

ELDER QIAO, YOUNG QIAO, WHY ARE YOU TWO STILL HERE?

LET ME REPEAT - EVERYTHING HERE IS YOURS!

AND MORE IF YOU WOULD JUST LET US GO!

YOU ARE WEALTHY, MASTER QIAO, AND YOU ALSO REPRESENT A PROMINENT CLAN IN THE EASTERN REGION. WHY DO YOU SUPPORT ROGUE CIVILIANS TO TURN THE NATION INTO CHAOS?

AND LET ME REPEAT AS WELL. I ONLY CAME TO HELP YOU.

AND THESE [illegible] WILL [illegible] DISPERSE NO LATER THAN A FEW MONTHS FROM NOW.

IF YOU MAKE THE WRONG FIRST MOVE, YOU WILL ONLY SINK DEEPER WITH EVERY MUDDY STEP.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

I'LL LEAVE MY PROPOSITION FIRST, MASTER QIAO. YOU CAN THINK IT OVER.

WE'RE ALL BUSINESSMEN. WE KNOW WHAT'S ON OUR MINDS.

MY OLDER BROTHER IS A GOVERNMENT APPOINTED OFFICER, AND HIS SKILLS ARE ABOVE THOSE OF LU BU.

WHAT MORE CAN YOU ASK FOR IF YOUR DAUGHTERS END UP IN THEIR CARE?

NOT THAT I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WOULD ASK FOR, MASTER QIAO.

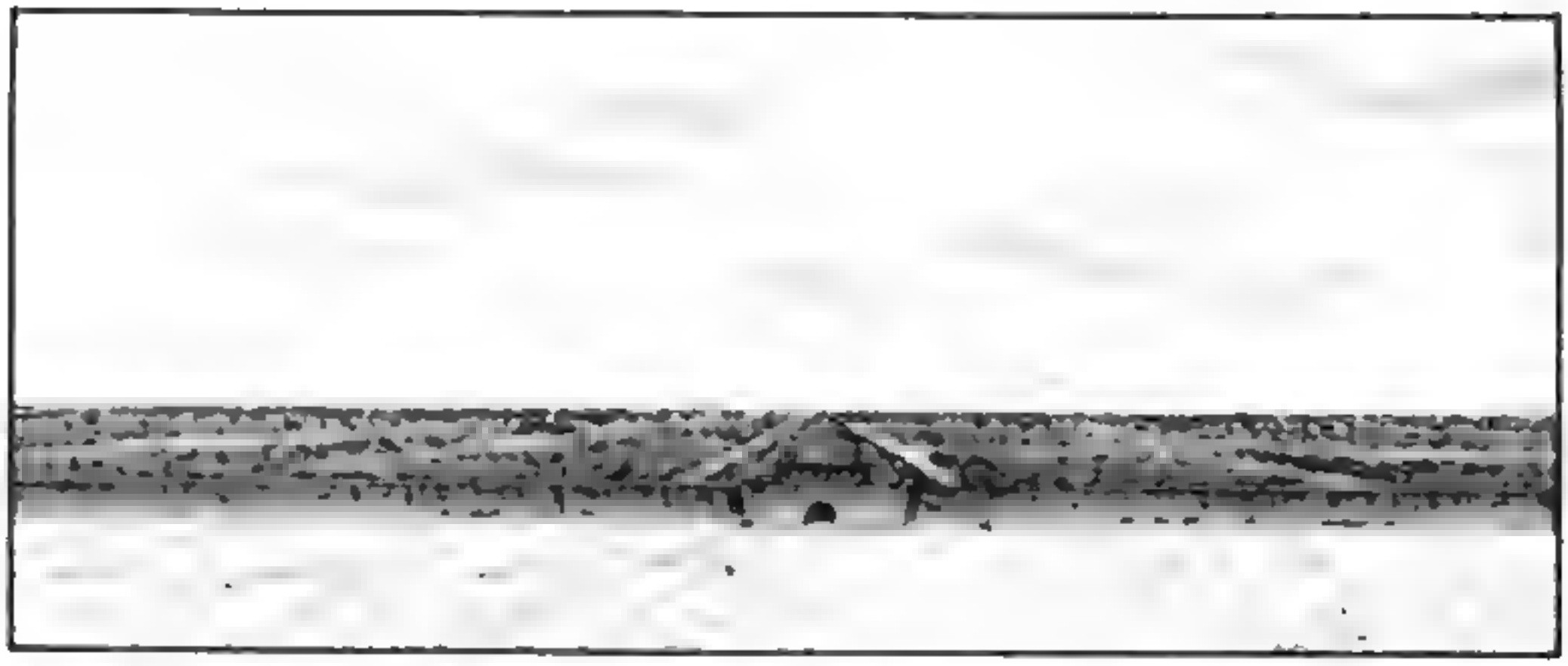
MAYBE IT IS HEAVEN'S WILL.

MY OATH BROTHER IS ONE OF THE EIGHT GENIUSES. HIS BRILLIANCE IS OUTSTANDING.

MY TALENT IS IN RAISING THE VALUE OF YOUR ASSETS.

ZHONG DA ONLY TAUGHT
THIS BOY FOR A FEW MONTHS,
(ZHONG DA IS SIMA YI'S COURTESY NAME)

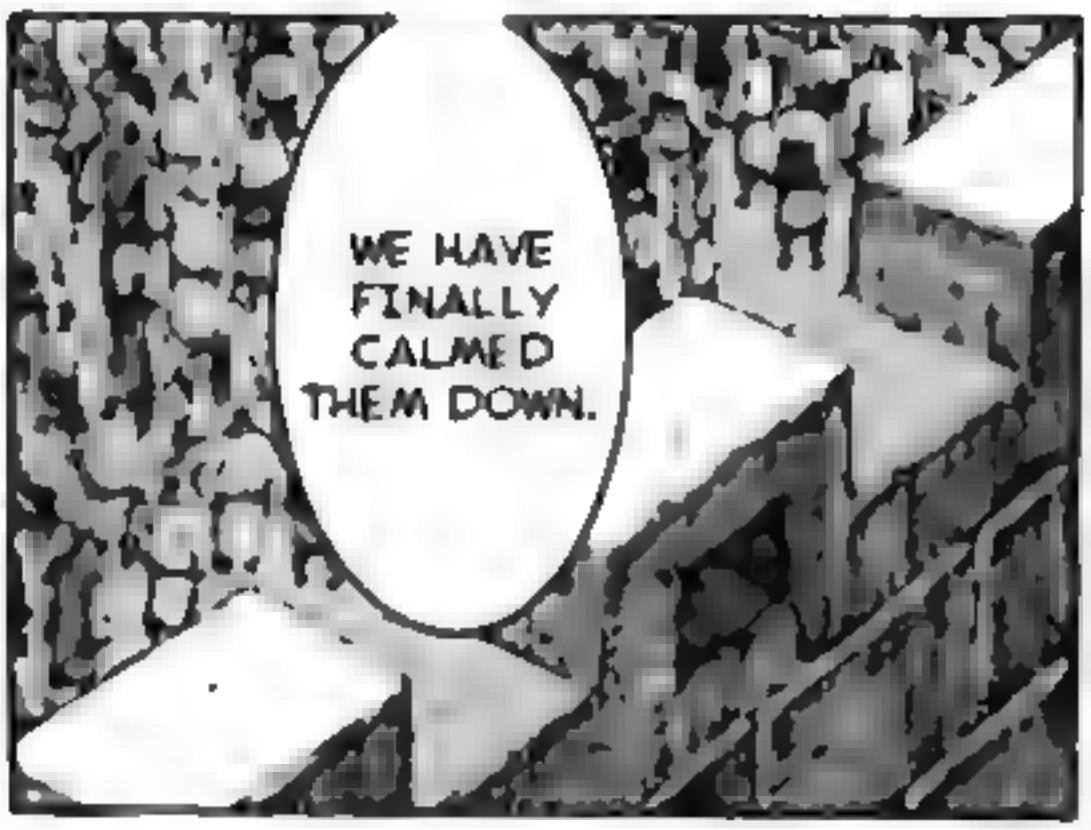
THOUGH YEARS LATER HIS
MANAGEMENT SKILL WILL RENDER
ZHONG DA SPEECHLESS.



HUIJI

IF WE ALL WORK TOGETHER, THE EASTERN REGION WILL FOREVER ENJOY PEACE AND PROSPERITY!

THE SUN CLAN IS RENOWNED IN THE EASTERN REGION AND MY MASTER SUN CE WAS EVEN APPOINTED BY HIS MAJESTY TO UNITE THE EASTERN REGION. NO CIVILIAN REBEL CAN COMPARE TO HIM.


WE HAVE FINALLY CALMED THEM DOWN.

CHAPTER 269 BATTLE OF WITS BETWEEN THE OLD AND YOUNG

I ONLY KNOW ABOUT WARFARE, SO OF COURSE HE'S BETTER AT THESE THINGS. RIGHT NOW ALL I CAN THINK ABOUT IS CONQUERING JIANGXIA.

SPEAKING OF SETTLING INTERNAL AFFAIRS, YOU HAVE MORE TO LEARN FROM ZHONG MOU.

ZHONG MOU IS SUN QUAN'S COURTESY NAME

JIANGXIA IS THE MILITARY BASE OF LIU BIAO'S SUBORDINATE HUANG ZU. HUANG ZU IS THE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF SUN CE'S FATHER.

HASTE MAKES WASTE. YOU HAVE TO CONSIDER OUR CURRENT STRENGTH EVEN IF YOU LONG TO AVENGE YOUR FATHER.

LET'S GO. THE AWARD CELEBRATION IS ABOUT TO BEGIN. THE NEWLY SURRENDERED MEN ARE WAITING.

DID YOU HEAR ME?

WE HAVE JUST MANAGED TO BRING PEACE TO THE EASTERN REGION. WHAT WE MUST DO NOW IS TO WIN THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE SO WE STAND A CHANCE IN FUTURE CONFLICTS.

YEAH, I'M GOING TO MEET THE GUESTS.

LOOK, THEY'RE ALL DOWN THERE.

SFX: CROWD NOISE

嘩

THAT'S NO ORDINARY MAN. WHO IS HE?

OFFICER LI, IS YOUR SON (GETTING) BETTER?

:TA:

:TA:

THANKS TO YOUR TREATMENTS MY BOY HAS FULLY RECOVERED. I OWE YOU MY LIFE, GREAT SAINT.

* YOUR FAVOR TO US I CAN ONLY REPAY BY PAINTING THE GROUND USING MY LIVER AND BRAIN*)

SIR ZHOU.

HERE!

NO NEED TO THANK ME. JOIN MY (RELIGION) CULT. BUT IF YOU HARBOR WICKED THOUGHTS AND DO UNRIGHTEOUS THINGS,

HOW ARE YOU, GREAT SAINT?

YOU LOOK GOOD AS ALWAYS!

I HAVE TIME TOMORROW. BRING THE SICK FAMILY MEMBER TO THE PREACHING PLACE.

THANK YOU, GREAT SAINT!

THIS SERIOUS ILLNESS WILL JUST RETURN.

EAT LESS MEAT AND SHUN THE WINE DURING THIS CELEB-RATION. YOU WILL GET BETTER.

TH.. THANK YOU FOR THE GUIDANCE, GREAT SAINT!

KOWTOW, REPENT, AND DRINK THE ENCHANTED WATER. THEN YOU'LL BE FINE.

GREAT SAINT, GENERAL CHENG PU REQUESTS A MEETING.

YOUR SAINTLY NAME PRECEDES YOU.

IT IS SO RARE TO SEE YOU. I WILL HOST YOU AT MY HOUSE TOO!

PLEASE STAY A FEW MORE DAYS, GREAT SAINT!

SUN CLAN'S STAR MAN. I HAVE HEARD MUCH ABOUT YOU.

IF YOU HAVE TIME AFTER THE CELEBRATION, I RESPECTFU -LLY REQUEST YOUR PRESENCE AT MY HUMBLE ABODE.

TWO THIRDS OF THE GUESTS ARE TRIPPING OVER THEMSELVES TO KISS UP TO HIM. EVEN CHENG PU...

NOW THAT CHENG PU HAS LURED HIM ONTO THE STAGE, YU JI'S DEATH IS FOR CERTAIN.

BROTHER, THIS MAN HERE IS YU JI. DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH EFFORT IT TOOK ME TO LURE HIM HERE?

TOO SOON, NO?

AND HIS FOLLOWERS HAVE SHOWED THEMSELVES AMONG THE CROWD. I HAVE PLANNED TO TAKE ACTION TOMORROW.

ZHONG MOU IS RIGHT. THIS MAN HAS TOO MANY FOLLOWERS. NO GOOD CAN COME OF IT IF WE LET HIM LIVE.

OH.

YOU TWO MAY HAVE ZHANG LIANG'S TACTICAL REFLEXES, BUT THIS MAN MUST HAVE THOUGHT OF HIS GETAWAY TOO IF HE DARED TO COME.

("..A LADDER THAT REACHES OVER, ABOVE THE WALL")

SUN JIAN'S DAUGHTER
SUN SHU

SUN JIAN'S WIFE
MRS. SUN

MOTHER, (OLDER) SISTER SHU! HOW...

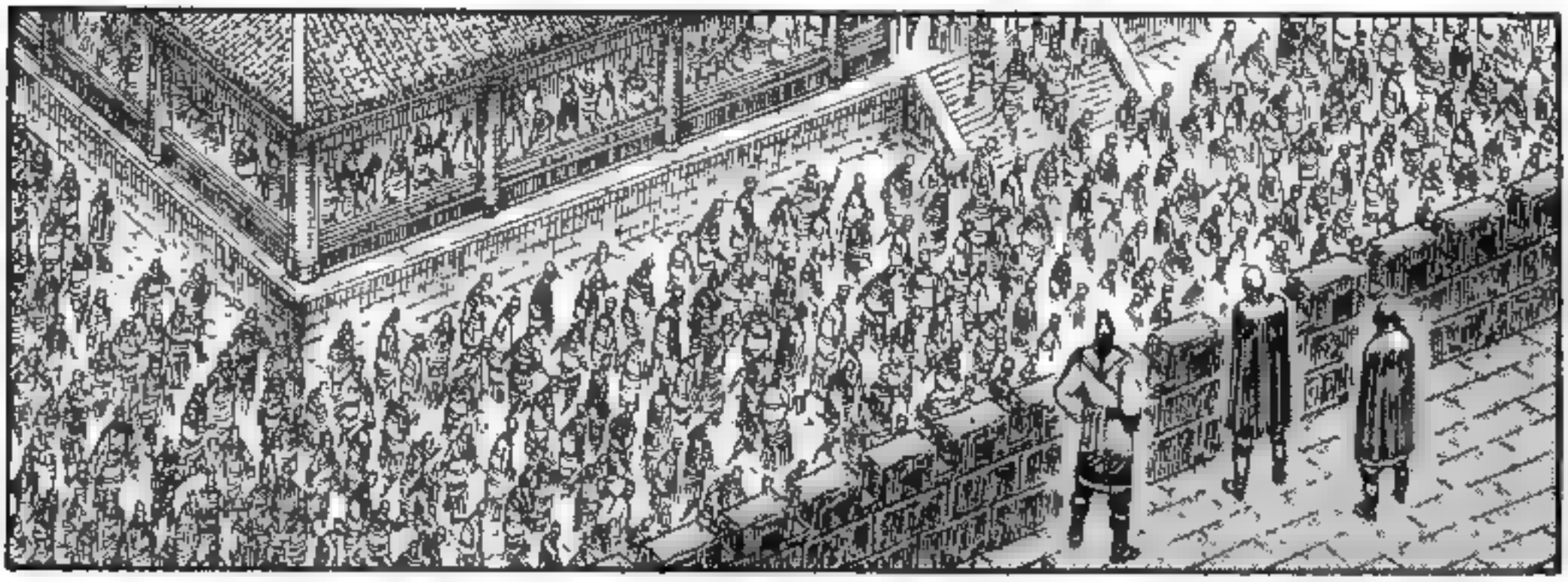
HE'S NO RUN-OF-THE-MILL WHEN IT COMES TO MIND GAMES EITHER.

LOOKS LIKE HE WILL GRAB A HOLD OF THE MATRON.

("HEARING THE NAME CANNOT SURPASS SEEING THE FACE")

HEARING CAN'T BEAT SEEING.

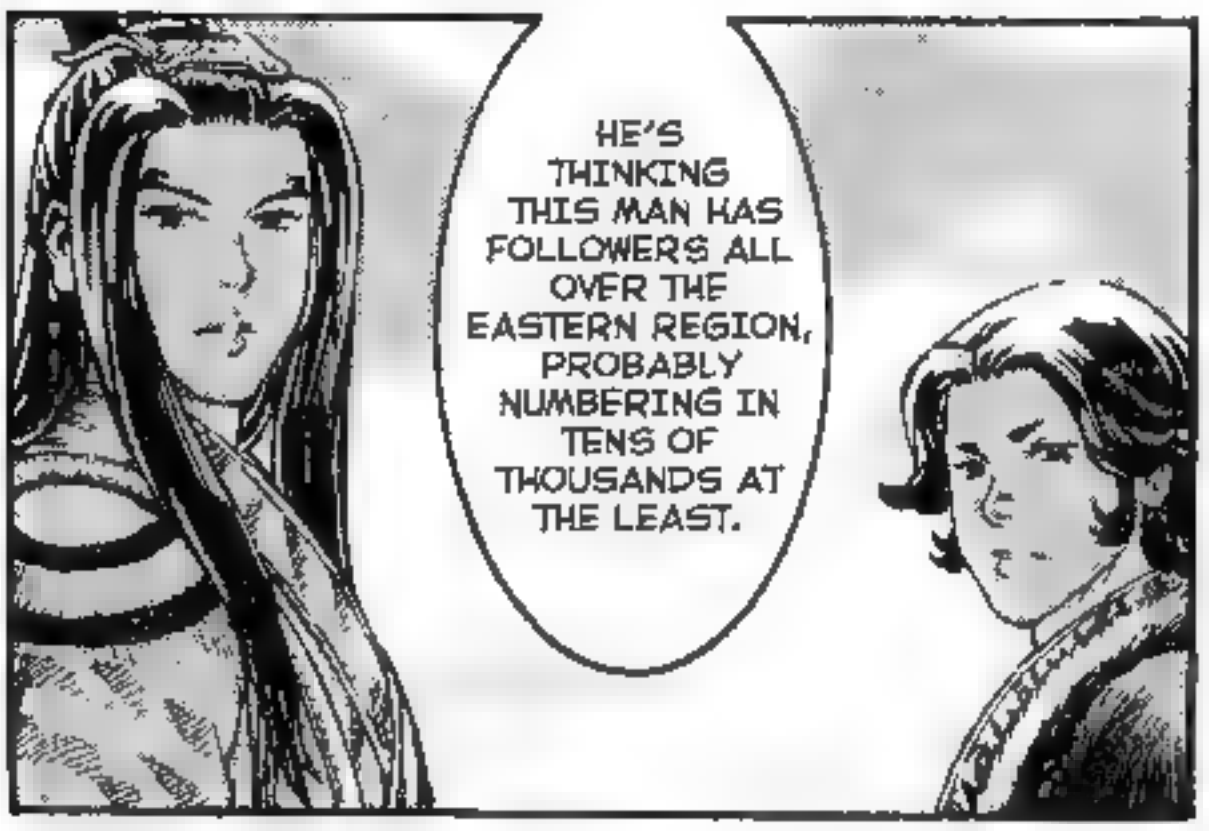
YU JI IS IT?



DON'T BE HASTY, ZHONG MOU. ONE WRONG MOVE... AND WE'LL BE IN A HEAP OF TROUBLE IF HIS FOLLO-WERS REVOLT.
HAHA, LOOK AT THOSE DOGS.

YOUR BROTHER IS JUST THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE.

IT'S A DANGEROUS SEASON NOW, BROTHER, AND YET YOU CAN STILL LAUGH?


HE'S THINKING THIS MAN HAS FOLLOWERS ALL OVER THE EASTERN REGION, PROBABLY NUMBERING IN TENS OF THOUSANDS AT THE LEAST.

WHAT'S YOUR TAKE ON THIS, ZHANG ZHAO?

IF WE ARE EAGER TO GET RID OF YU JI, IT COULD LEAD TO INTERNAL CONFLICTS AND LOSE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.

SUN CE'S MILITARY ADVISOR

ZHANG ZHAO

WE NEED TIME TO RECOVER FROM THE MASSIVE LOSS AFTER THE WAR TO BRING PEACE TO THE EASTERN REGION.

LIU BIAO OF JING-ZHOU KNOWS FULL WELL OF THIS PROBLEM,

HENCE HE HASN'T INCREASED DEFENSE MEASURES AT JIANGXIA.

DO YOU MEAN TO SAY, MASTER (TEACHER) ZHANG, THAT WE SHOULD LET THE TAIPING DAOISTS AND LIU BIAO GO AT IT?

PA

NO WONDER MASTER WATERMIRROR IS FAVORING ME. IT SEEMS THAT ZHOU YU WILL TAKE CARE OF EXTERNAL THREATS,

PRECISELY. QUICKLY ABSORB THESE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF FOLLOWERS TO BECOME OUR ARMY. TAKE LIU BIAO BY SURPRISE.

WHILE ZHANG ZHAO WILL TAKE CARE OF THE INTERNAL ONES.

WHAT AM I AFRAID OF?

WHY DID YOU COME, GREAT SAINT?

SUN JIAN USED TO BE THE MAIN OPPONENT AGAINST YELLOW TURBANS, AND YOU ARE A BELIEVER OF THE TAIPING DAOISM. HIS SON HAS EVERY REASON TO KILL YOU.

I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND, GREAT SAINT...

XU GONG

DIDN'T HE TREAT ME POLITELY DURING THE CELEBRATION JUST THEN?

THIS BOY JUST WANTS TO USE OUR ARMY OF FOLLOWERS TO TAKE JIANGXIA FOR HIM.

WHY WOULD YOU AGREE TO IT, GREAT SAINT?

IT'S MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL. I ALSO WANT TO USE HIS EXTRAORDINARY ABILITIES TO EXPAND THE TERRITORIES FOR THE TAIPING DAOISM.

GREAT SAINT, SUN CE MUST HAVE PREPARED THE ENDGAME..

LET'S SEE WHETHER HE GETS TO ELIMINATE THE YELLOW TURBANS FOR HIS FATHER,

HE WILL CONQUER THE WORLD; I WILL CONQUER THE POPULACE.

OR I GET TO SEND HIM ON HIS WAY TO HELL!

AFTER THAT, THE EASTERN REGION
SUDDENLY QUIETED DOWN.

EVERY REVOLTING CIVILIAN
VANISHED OVERNIGHT.

NEXT ON RAVAGES

I THINK... HIS ERA IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.

THE ZHAO BANNER FLUTTERS,
THE FIRE BURNS.
THE UNDEFEATABLE
GENERAL TAKES TO THE SKY.

VOLUME 34
ZHAO ZI LONG OF CHANGSHAN

火鳳燎原

第三十三集

作者／陳某

第三十三集連載於新少年快報2008年第42期～2008年第50期
【發 行 人】……范萬楠
【出　　版】……東立出版社有限公司
【地　　址】……台北市承德路二段８１號１０樓
TEL:（02）2558－7277　FAX:（02）2558－7280
【香港公司】……東立出版集團有限公司
……香港北角渣華道321號
……柯達大廈第二期1901室
……TEL：23862312　FAX：23618806
【劃撥帳號】……1085042－7
【戶　　名】……東立出版社有限公司
【劃撥專線】……（02）2810－0720
【美術設計】……林志鴻
【美術編輯】……范怡如
【執行編輯】……蔡亞霖
【印　　刷】……台興印刷裝訂事業股份有限公司
【版　　次】……2008年12月25日第一刷發行

東立網站：www.tongli.com.tw

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ISBN 978-986-10-2935-1

仙道起新亂
兄弟靖江東

那年，黃天已死。今時，仙道再臨。江東新亂起，有人打着救人救世的宗教旗幟，率領信眾數萬，勢力日益擴張。同樣是爲民心爲天下，這將會成爲小霸王孫策一統江東的威脅？還是助力？與此同時，新一代敗將出山，將爲江東戰局起了什麼變化？

陳某繼【不是人】之後，再度呈現一個縱橫幻想與史實的三國時代……

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ISBN 978-986-10-2935-1
TC16733
00095
9 789861 029351

Wonderland Scanning Group

封面構成／人偶師 字體設計／林雲連
東立出版社有限公司
定價NT$95元